P 007

D. 1674 NL

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 29 1900
BUREAU.

No.8

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

Copied J. R.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
7 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 1, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State, Dispo Jan 2, 1901

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy to Mr. Carter for use of the Secretary of War. Ack and file.
DEC 29 1900

Washington, D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to confirm as follows my cablegram to you of the 21st ultimo from Peking.-

"Secstate, Washington.

Twenty one. Very carefully examined the situation with the Minister. Entirely concur with him all his views and steps proposes in interest of reestablishment order and peace. We agree as to no reduction in military forces here until preliminary settlement has been made. Rockhill"

In explanation of the above despatch I have the honor to state that I reached Peking on the 18th September, making the journey up to Taku on the U.S.S.New Orleans and from Taku to Peking by transportation furnished me by order of General Chaffee.

I stopped in Tientsin long enough to enquire into the general condition of the place and to visit not only the whole of the foreign settlement but also the native city. In the former I found the foreign troops in complete possession of everything and acting much as they would in a conquered city. Very little order was visible and a lack of discipline in many of the troops was painfully evident at every turn. I learned from both United States and British Army officers that it required on all sides the greatest tact and forbearance to maintain even a semblance of cordiality in the relations between the troops of the various nationalities in and around Tientsin and that, in their estimattimation, there was every reason to fear that serious trouble might arise

from the disposition of all parties to seize for their use or as a valuable asset every site, property, or belonging which pleased their fancy or tempted their cupidity. In the native city the Provisional Government has begun to establish some semblance of order and the Chinese were more numerous there than in any other part of Tientsin. The authority of this government is, however, strictly limited to the native city and its authority denied outside of it. This conflict of authority between this government and the various military commanders, each of them exercising authority in such place and in such manner as suits himself, greatly retards the reestablishment of order and must remain a source of constant preoccupation for those whose wish it is to see peaceful and orderly conditions prevail. All Chinese authorities are, of course, excluded from Tientsin, and it is probable that the Provisional Government will use its best efforts to delay as long as it can their return. I may incidentally mention that the persons composing the Provisional Government have been allowed - I did not learn by whom - very large salaries; ten thousand dollars (Mexican) to the four principal officers and slightly smaller ones to the other foreigners under them.

Between Tientsin and Peking the country for several miles on either side of the highroad has been abandoned by the Chinese and the villages are one mass of ruins, some now held by detachments of foreign troops; others completely deserted. A few peasants may now and then be seen hiding in the fields of corn or sorghum, trying to cut some of the now ripe grain, but when their presence is detected by the foreign soldiers traveling along the road or on the river they are exposed to being shot at. I saw several corpses along the road, evidently those of peasants shot in this manner. I am pleased to be able to state that our troops here and

everywhere are behaving as we could wish them to and their discipline and fine bearing are greatly admired by all. From our officers commanding detachments along the route I heard that during the last few weeks several reconnaissances had been made to points from five to seven miles on either side of the road and at which the presence of Boxers had been reported. Though the latter were found in force, they offered no serious resistance to the troops and fled as soon as they were attacked. So little resistance did they offer that both our officers and men said they had not the heart to cut them down, and none now consider them as constituting any danger to our lines of communication or as likely to undertake any operations against us.

On arriving in Peking I went very carefully and in great detail over the whole situation as created by recent events in North China with Mr. Conger, General Chaffee and General James H. Wilson, and read all the correspondence which had passed between Mr. Conger, the Department of State and the Chinese Tsungli Yamen. Two days before my arrival in Peking Mr. Conger had addressed to Prince Ching, who had returned to the capital some days earlier, commissioned by the Emperor to open negotiations with the Diplomatic representatives at Peking for the reestablishment of peace, a note urging upon him the necessity of the Emperor's return to Peking, as the most potent means of restoring tranquility to the country and consequently facilitating and expediting negotiations. "While he (the Emperor) remains at a distance", says Mr. Conger in his note, "surrounded by the same advisers as before, the prospect of a permanent settlement must remain doubtful. . . for it suggests both to Foreign Governments and to the people that there will be no change in the policy of the Throne towards Foreign Powers and their subjects in China."

The views of Mr.Conger on this subject were identical with my own,as the Department is aware by my cablegram of September 21st. Another point on which I was pleased to find my views coincide with those of our Minister,was the imperative necessity of maintaining the present force of troops in Peking until after the signing of at least the preliminaries of peace and the demonstration by the Chinese Government of not only its willingness but its ability to restore order. Any withdrawal of troops from the capital before the return of the Emperor,would in our opinion be unquestionably prejudicial to American interests,as it would be represented by the Chinese Government to the people and universally so believed by them to be due to fear or as a result of Imperial commands. The moral effect on the people of the occupation of Peking by the Powers would be minimized by such a step and the conclusion of satisfactory negotiations greatly jeopardized. In our opinion the withdrawal from Peking should be gradual and contingent on the reestablishment of order in the disturbed provinces - especially in that of Chihli,and we believe that nothing would so stimulate the Chinese Government to energetic action as a hope of putting an end to the foreign occupation of the capital.

While General Chaffe was,for purely military reasons,especially the urgent need of our returning troops to the Philippines,in favor of a complete evacuation of not only Peking but of all northern China,he did not deny the validity of the above arguments in favor of the maintenance of the present force in the field,arguments which he told me had been made to him by all the diplomats in Peking.

From General Chaffee and General Wilson I learnt that in the various reconnaissances in the neighborhood of Peking - extending over a large area of country,no opposition had been made to the troops by the parties of Boxers met with;they had on every occasion dispersed at the first

attack. Such being the condition,the Imperial troops and the Boxers having apparently ceased to hold the field,no longer forming any organized force against which our troops can possibly operate,it becomes apparent that the only power which can bring about the complete reestablishment of order, is the Chinese one. To this task it should now be strictly held and it is my belief that it can easily and rapidly accomplish it.

The return of the Chinese Government to Peking being once recognized as an indispenable preliminary to the reestablishment of order,it would seem that no offensive military operations not necessitated for purposes of defense, should be now engaged in by the international forces,for such would unquestionably fill the Chinese with not unfounded apprehensions as to the intention of the Powers and thereby delay,if not make impossible,the desired return of the Emperor to Peking. If punitive expeditions should be decided upon they can be led without a doubt throughout the length and breadth of China,but the result would be to utterly defeat the ends we have in view,and anarchy might reign throughout the Empire,but they can never exercise,as some foreigners now think,a quieting influence on the country.

While in Peking I called on Prince Ching. He told me that he thoroughly concurred with Mr.Conger's views concerning the necessity of the Emperor's return to Peking and that he and the other high officials now in Peking had memorialized him to do so,sending him a copy of Mr.Conger's note. I urged upon him the necessity of his government taking prompt and effective measures throughout the country to completely reestablish order as the only means of arresting offensive operations on the part of the foreign forces. He answered that imperial orders had already been sent for the extermination of the Boxers everywhere,and that they were being carried out. Li Hung Chang,he told me,had also issued a pro-

clamation in Chihli which would greatly tend to attain these ends. From the general tone of the Prince's remarks I gathered that he did not yet feel himself very strongly supperted at Court in securing its acceptance of the measures which he evidently recognized are necessary to a restoration of peaceful international relations and that he did not view with any pleasure Li Hung chang's being associated with him in the coming negotiations. The straightforward and clear declaration by the United States of its policy in China as made known to him through your circular of July 3d last, and your note to Wu Ting fang of August 22d were, I gained, a source of sincere gratification to him. He finally assured me that his Government would not fail in any effort to promptly reestablish order and honestly perform the conditions necessary to future cordial relations. In all this I think the Prince was absolutely sincere; it remains to be seen how far his views and suggestions meet with the support of the Emperor now exposed to the influence of hostile advisers.

I had also while in Peking several conversations with Sir Robert Hart, whose long experience in China entitled his views to every consideration. He looked upon the Boxer movement as a national and patriotic one for freeing China of the foreigners to whom, rightly or wrongly, it attributed all the country's misfortunes during the last half century. Though crushed at present he feared that unless the Powers would agree to treat the question in a conciliatory spirit which would tend to establish cordial relations with China- a state which had never existed in the past - it might some day come to life again when the world might have to face an armed China, not a rabble carrying spears and tridents. He thought that China could still pay a reasonable indemnity though its finances were in a bad condition, perhaps it could

pay £50,000,000.,or £100,000,000.,but he feared the Powers' demands would greatly exceed these figures and that further cessions of territory would be insisted upon which would continue indefinitely the feeling of unrest,suspicion and hostility on the part of the Chinese.

Referring to the coming negotiations of Prince Ching with the Diplomatic representatives,he told me that he had prepared for him a statement of facts showing China's responsibility in the present troubles, and a draft which he thought the Prince might submit to the Diplomatic corps as a basis for the preliminary negotiations. I enclose a copy of these papers for your personal information.

Sir Robert said that he believed that the Chinese would readily agree to the severest punishment of Prince Tuan, Chuang and all these who were responsible for the present troubles,but he held that the punishment should only be demanded after the Emperor had returned to Peking and the first steps had been taken in the negotiations. He believed that if insisted upon at the present moment,all the guilty would probably escape. He was also of opinion that the Chinese were prepared to see the Empress Dowager absolutely removed from power and that so long as she suffered no indignity in person they would not object to such measures being taken as might appear necessary to prevent her exercising hereafter undue influence over the Emperor. The people of China,Sir Robert said,were profoundly loyal to the present Emperor and his return to real power would be hailed on all sides,as well among the officials as the people,with joy.

Mr.Conger agreeing with me in thinking that it was urgently necessary to impress on the Viceroys of Nanking and

Wuchang the advisability of their memoralizing the Throne in favor of the Emperor's return to Peking,and of ascertaining how far they would support Prince Ching's views,I decided to leave Peking at once and proceed as rapidly as possible to these two provincial capitals. I left Peking on the 24th ult. and arrived in Shanghai on the 30th.

I asked Admiral Remey when on board the "Brooklyn" off Taku on the 27th. September on my way down here,to have me sent up the Yang-tze on one of our men-of-war now stationed at Shanghai,and believe that the Viceroys would be pleased at my thus visiting them,and we owe them much for the perfect order they have maintained in their provinces during the present troubles. I shall leave as soon as the Admiral's orders are received.

Admiral Remey having mentioned to me on the 27th September that the naval commanders at Taku had decided,at the suggestion of the German Vice Admiral he believed,that an international naval force should be sent to capture Tsing Wang tao near Shan hai Kuan,and believing as I do that such an operation was not only uncalled for but might possibly be highly prejudicial to the real interests of the United States and contrary to the views held by Mr.Conger and myself,I sent you on the 1st October a cablegram which I now have the honor to confirm as follows.-

"Secstate,Washington.

First. Admiral informed me last Thursday commanding officers naval forces made an agreement attack Tsing Wang tao. Although now garrisoned Chinese forces they are passive. Military operations except on the defensive at the present moment will unquestionably retard the return of the Emperor Peking,the restoration of order by China which it declares that it has begun and conclusion of preliminaries peace"

In this connection I may mention that well known German subjects residing in Tientsin, Messrs Hanneken and Detring, are the chief movers, besides being interested in a scheme for deepening the harbor of Tsing Wang tao and making it a winter port. They expect if the scheme goes through to realize very large profits.

It is also of interest to note that prior to the recent capture of the Pei tang fort by the Russian and German forces, a capture effected with practically no loss to either side except as a result of accidents, Li Hung Chang, then at Taku, offered to have the fort evacuated and handed over to the international forces. This was declined by the Germans and Russians, - capture by force of arms seeming to them preferable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

One enclosure.

Copy.

Siege of Peking;Memo for Prince Ching.

1. In 1898 the attitude of the Kansuh General ,Tung Fuh Hsian and his soldiers caused the Legations to bring guards to Peking for their temporary protection.

2. During 1899 foreigners in China were disquieted by reports from Shantung concerning the Boxers movements. No edict had as yet been seen approving of it,but it was said to be supported by the provincial officials.

3. Early in 1900 the Boxers crossed from Shantung into Pechili and reached Paotingfoe,burning churches and massacring converts wherever fallen in with. Legations guards were again brought to Peking.

4. Boxer outrages continued and the situation became more grave when Fengtai was reached. The decision of the foreign representatives to strengthen the Legation guards was however impossible to give effect to and the force led by Admiral Sir E.Seymour had to return to Tientsin owing to the destruction of the railway.

5. On the 11th June the Chancellor of the Japanese Legation, Mr.Sugiwara was killed by Tung Fuh Hsiang's soldiers near the Yung Ting men gate,and on the 15th the Boxers entered Peking by the Ha-ta-men gate and began burning houses etc.,in every quarter. On this the Legations posted their guards to protect the Legation quarter and Chinese were no longer allowed to circulate freely;the protection of the Legations required this.

6. On the 14th June Peking and Tientsin could no longer communicate,and the naval authorities at Taku decided to oc-

cupy the Taku forts,as forces would have to pass them for the rescue of the Legations. On the 19th the Yamen directed the foreign representatives to quit Peking within 24 hours;on the expiration of the time the firing began and the siege commenced.

7. Before the siege the Boxers,although said to be supported by the Shantung provincial authorities,were not known to have been recognized by Edict,but after the siege began Edict after Edict praised them for their doings,and Princes and high ministers were appointed to lead them;the proclamations of these leaders were also seen in the streets. Accordingly for the Boxer doings,whether they harmed natives or foreigners,the Government cannot disclaim responsibility;on this point every Power will insist. If it be said that what was done was neither with the Emperor's knowledge nor by the Emperor's wish it will be asked who then is Emperor - the ministers who do not obey the Emperor's orders,or the Emperor who obeys ministers? Argue it as you may,the fact is that the Government is responsible,and the Government will have to atone,for all that has occurred.

8. It will be no easy task for either side now to propose or assent,and China's task will be by far the hardest. But, to settle this business,there are only two plans - either follow Tung Fuh Hsiang's advice and fight it out,or devise some way of making a peaceful arrangement. Now,as to fighting it out,the fact that China's military strength could not arrest the steps of the foreign forces,and that a fortnight sufficed for them to march victoriously from the sea to Peking,is in itself enough to show what can be hoped from the noble idea of no surrender. And,as for peaceful arrangement - it too has its difficulties;but if no daring negotiator will come forward and make peace,then what security can there be for China's Ten-tenths? while,on the other hand,if

a bold statesman will settle the matter,in the end he will be found to have yielded only a fraction of one of these Tenths; this idea is well worth weighing. To conclude,the attack on the Legations was the greatest of crimes in international dealings - - do not regard it lightly,do not make any mistake about it - - and it is a something no Power can or will condone. Appended for consideration is a draft of a general proposal.

1 September , 1900, Handed Prince Ching 4th in Chinese.

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Proposal in Draft for Prince Ching to hand Doyen.

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The Emperor deeply regrets the occurrences of the last three months and has specially appointed Prince Ching to communicate this in person. Further Prince Ching has been given full powers to arrange the present difficulty - all points to be fully considered;and the Prince now submits the following articles to serve as a basis for one general convention for China on one side and the treaty powers on the other.

1st. The powers declare the attack on the Legations to be a breach of international law that could never be tolerated and China,acknowledging the wrong done on this occasion,undertakes that such a thing shall never recur.

2d. China undertakes to meet all claims connected with the matter,and the powers on their side will each appoint officers to prepare a statement of demands.

3rd. As regards future intercourse etc.,whether old treaties should be simply restated,or be slightly amended or added to in a separate article,or be completely annulled and new ones negotiated,is for each power to decide;China agrees to act accordingly.

4th. The present convention is one of a general nature between China and all the powers;once it is agreed to

foreign soldiers will be withdrawn from the Yamen and the Ministers charged with the conduct of foreign affairs will transact business there as before. In addition, each power will draw up its own treaty with China, and, when these separate treaties are agreed on, Chinese officials will resume official work in Peking; further, when indemnities are paid off or arrangements for payment accepted, the powers will commence to withdraw their troops.

(N.B. What other demands the powers may require assent to in the general convention, it is today impossible to say)

1 September, 1900.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Confirm. OCT 1 1900

CONFIDENTIAL. Informally sent to President and Secy Root, Long and Wright - Oct 1.

DIPLOMATIC, OCT 2 1900 BUREAU.

From Shanghai,

October 1, 1900.

Received 4:30 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

First. Admiral informed me last Thursday commanding officers naval forces made an agreement attack Tsing-wang-hao, although now garrisoned Chinese forces. They are passive. Military operations except on the defensive at the present moment will unquestionably retard the return of the Emperor Peking, the restoration of order by China (which ~~is the~~ it declares that it has begun) and conclusion of preliminaries peace.

ROCKHILL.

Deciphered by Chinese

, 190 , M.

manifolded

No. 421

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 22 1900
BUREAU.

October 1st, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgment of Department's instructions received during the month of September, 1900.

(Despatch No. 410, September 13th, 1900)

No. 421

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 18th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 410 of the 13th ultimo,- I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions as follows: Nos. 260 to 269 inclusive; unnumbered dated May 15th, 18th, 24th, 24th, June 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 7th, 7th, 7th, 8th, 8th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 14th, 16th, 16th, 18th, 19th, 27th, 27th, and 27th, 1900,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant

E H Conger

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 8 1900
BUREAU.

Confirm. file.
a.d.a.

Louise
Oct. 9.

From Peking,

October 5, 1900.

Via Taku, Received 2.04 PM

October 5.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Peking 1st. October first. Your cipher telegram September 22, communicating replies to Chinese, Russian and German Governments, received yesterday.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 5, 2.30 PM, 189, M.

Index

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 9 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking,

October 3, 1900.

Received, via Taku, at

10.50 P. M., Oct. 6

Confer Oct 10

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Pekin 3d. October 3d. Imperial decree September 25 acknowledges the responsibility of Chinese Government for recent troubles, Emperor accepting his share; deprives Princes Chwang, Tsai Lien and Tsai Ying of all titles of nobility; removes Prince Tuan from offices and hands him over to Imperial Clan Court for determination of punishment; and hands over Duke Lan, Ying Nien, Kang Yi and Chao Schu Chao to proper boards for further punishments. He is evidently feeling his way, but most severe and lasting punishment must be insisted upon finally, and other included.

CONGER

Received 12 o'clock M,

Deciphered By
Wm. H. Michael, Chief Clerk.
1 o'clock P M.

Copies delivered to
Adc'y

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

Oct. 7, 1 P. M., 189, M.

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU.
NOV. 15 1900

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
Secretary of State.
NOV 9 1900
NOV 12 1900

No 9.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 7 NOV 1900 DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 5, 1900.

Rec'd Nov. 12

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.

As of possible interest to the Department, I have the honor to enclose herewith clippings from the North China Daily News of October 1st and 3rd, 1900, publishing translations of Imperial Decrees granting Imperial funeral sacrifices in honor of the late Baron von Ketteler; commanding Yu Hsien, Governor of Shansi, to resign and appointing Hsi Liang, Provincial Treasurer of Hunan, to succeed him; promoting Wang Pei-yu, Governor of Peking, to be Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship and appointing Ch'en K'uei-lung to be Governor of Peking. etc., etc.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

One enclosure.

From the North China Daily News (Shanghai) Oct.1,1900

IMPERIAL DECREES.

20th September.

(3) Yü Hsien, Governor of Shansi, is hereby commanded to resign his post and await further appointment from the Throne. Hai Liang (Manchu), Provincial Treasurer of Hunan, is hereby promoted to be Governor of Shansi. [Note :—Hai Liang was one of the first high provincial officials who led troops to "rescue the Empress Dowager" and is a man very similar in character to the notorious Yü Hsien whom he now succeeds.—Translator.]

(6) Wang Pei-yu, Governor of Peking, is promoted Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship, and Ch'ên K'uei-lung is appointed Governor of Peking in his stead. [Note :—Wang Pei-yu is the "Boxer Censor" who praised them up before the Empress Dowager last May, an account of which, it will be remembered, was given in these columns at the time, and whom the Empress Dowager promoted to be Governor of Peking on the spot "in order to be placed in a position whereby he could officially organise the 'patriots.'" Wang Pei-yu's guilt therefore as an instigator also of the Boxer outrages on Foreigners and Christian converts is easily proved.—Translator.]

From the North China Daily News (Shanghai) October 3,1900

IMPERIAL DECREES.

25th September.

IMPERIAL FUNERAL SACRIFICES GRANTED THE LATE BARON VON KETTELER.

(1) We have already expressed our deep regret and sympathy for the death of the late Baron von Ketteler, Minister of the Great German Empire to this Court, at the time of his murder by soldiers in Peking. Now as we recall to mind the urbanity, courtesy and firmness of the late Minister in his relations with our Government, ever since his arrival in China, we feel all the more the loss we have suffered [from his premature death] and we, therefore, hereby bestow upon him an Imperial funeral sacrifice before his remains and command the Grand Secretary K'un Kang (Manchu) to proceed on date of his receipt of this decree at once to perform the said Imperial funeral sacrifices and to pour out a libation before the remains on our behalf. Furthermore, when the late Baron von Ketteler's coffin is started on its way to his native country we hereby command the Viceroys of Chihli and the Liangkiang provinces, in their capacity of Imperial Commissioners of the Peiyang and Nanyang Administration, to take all precautions for the safe transportation of the said remains through their respective jurisdictions. And finally, when the late Minister's remains shall have reached Germany, we further command Lu Hai-huan, Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue and our Minister to the Court of Berlin, to proceed forthwith and perform another Imperial funeral sacrifice before the said remains, pouring forth a libation on our behalf, as a true mark of our constant desire never to forget the duties we owe to a friendly State.

PUNISHMENTS FOR THE INSTIGATORS OF THE RECENT TROUBLES.

(2) The present war having resulted in extraordinary complications it has led us to seek for the reason thereof as it was not the Throne which had originated this policy. We find now that we have owed all this to the encouragement and protection given by certain Princes and high Ministers to Boxer rebels and ruffians inciting them to commit excesses and open hostilities against friendly States, thereby bringing sorrow and trouble upon our Imperial ancestors who handed down the Empire to us and compelling us to seek refuge in carts in flight.

We, the Emperor, of course, cannot free ourself from blame in this matter, but when we consider that we owe all these troubles to certain Princes and high Ministers owing to their having been guilty of stirring up hostilities without cause or reason, we feel that they indeed deserve all the punishment due them in proportion to their vaious degrees of guilt and we propose therefore to add a degree to the punish- of each. We hereby command that Tsai Hsün, Prince Chuang, 1st order; P'u Ching, Prince Yi, 1st Order; Prince Tsai Lien and Prince Tsai Ying, 3rd Order, be cashiered of their titles of nobility and official ranks and posts; that Tsai Ch'i, Prince Tuan, 2nd Order, be leniently dealt with and only cashiered of all his official posts and handed over to the Imperial Clan Court for the determination of the severest penalties, with stoppage of his allowances and salary as a Prince; and that Duke Tsai Lan and Ying Nien, President of the Court of Censors, be handed to the Boards concerned for the determination of the severest penalties. Further, let the Assistant Grand Secretary and President of the Board of Civil Appointments, Kang Yi, and Chao Shu-ch'iao, President of the Board of Punishments, be both handed to the Court of Censors for the determination of adequate penalties. This is meant as a warning to all. We, the Emperor, having received the great responsibilities of Empire from our Imperial Ancestors, our chief duty should be the welfare of the Empire and our relations with the outside world at large. Before this chief duty all else must be sacrificed and become of secondary care. Hence when Princes and high Ministers fail in their duty to the Throne and have brought punishments on themselves, we cannot protect them from suffering the consequences of their own misdeeds—a sentiment which must be felt also by our officials and people throughout the Empire.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 15 1900
COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.
BUREAU

Secretary of State.
NOV 9 1900

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
NOV 12 1900

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
7 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

No.10

Shanghai, China, October 4th, 1900.

Rec'd Nov. 17.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.

In my despatch No.8 of the 1st instant, I had occasion to refer to the Provisional Government of the native city of Tientsin. I have now the honor to transmit herewith for your information a copy of the Agreement between the Commanders of the International Forces constituting it and defining its duties.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

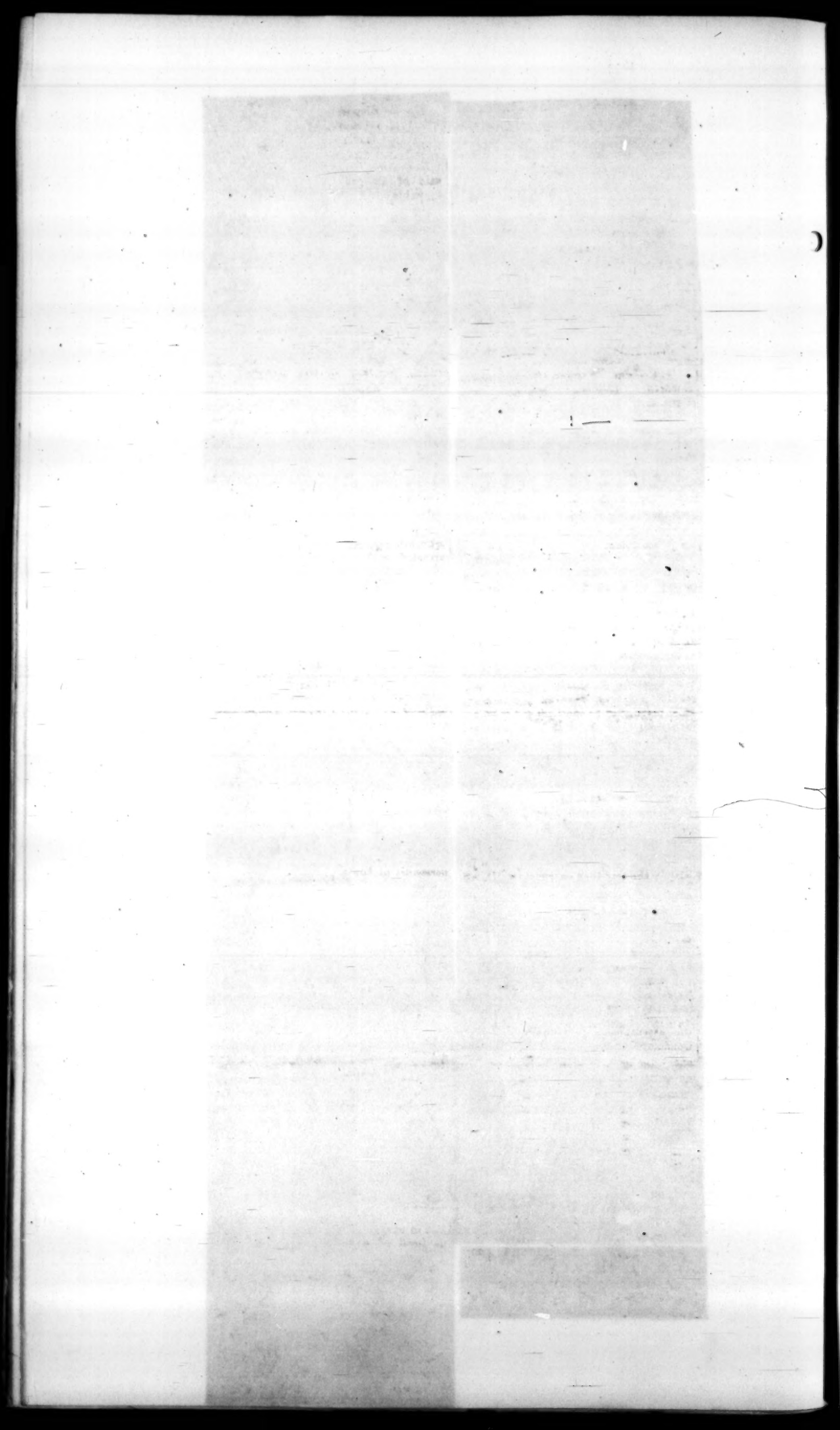
your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

Enclosure.

1.- Clipping from Shanghai Mercury, September 10, 1900.



From the Shanghai Mercury of September 10,1900.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TIENTSIN NATIVE CITY.

The General Regulations under which Tientsin Native City is now being administered are as follows:—

"The City of Tientsin having been occupied by the Allied Forces, it has been decided to constitute a provisional administration under the style of "The Council of the Provisional Government of the City of Tientsin. The Council shall extend both over the City of Tientsin itself and also over the surrounding country as far as the Mud Wall, excepting:

(1).—The Foreign Concessions—German, English, French, and Japanese.

(2.)—Arsenals, camps, railways, telegraphs, and other military institutions already occupied by the Allied Forces.

The Provisional Government shall take in hand the following matters.

1. Re-establishment of order and security within the precints of the City and in the territory placed under its jurisdiction.

2.—Sanitary precaution in the City, in this territory and in the suburbs to prevent epidemic and other diseases.

3.—It shall aid the Allied Forces in finding camping grounds, and shall procure for them provision and means of transport—draught animals, carts, boats, coolies, &c.

4.—It shall draw up an inventory and take the necessary steps for preserving property, movable and immovable, belonging to the Chinese Government, as well as that of private individuals abandoned by the owners.

5.—It shall take measures to prevent famine among the natives.

The Provisional Government shall be represented by a Council composed of three members, enjoying the same rights, elected by the military Commandants of the Allied Powers operating in Chihli. The Council, being the creation of all the Powers, shall enjoy within the territory entrusted to it, absolute independence, and shall as far as possible comply with all requests addressed to it, whether coming from the Commandants of the Allied Forces, or from Consuls of Foreign Powers. In case of a difference between the Council and one of the Commandants of the Allied Forces, or between the Council and one of the Consuls, the question shall be submitted to arbitration before the assembled commandants, or the Consular Body, according to the character of the point in dispute. If no settlement can be arrived at by these means, the dispute shall be submitted to the decision of their respective Governments.

The Council shall have the right:

1.—To establish and publish Regulations on matters which concern Provisional Government.

2.—To impose on natives taxes, and contributions, and to collect the lawful imports of the Chinese Government.

3.—To seize or take under its control all valuables, as well as documents, which may be found in government buildings, and in private places abandoned by their owners.

4.—To dispose of, as the necessity arises, of all movable property belonging to the Government, excepting that which belongs to the military administration, and to proceed to the sale of all property, movable or immovable, confiscated from the native inhabitants.

5.—To employ the sums placed at the disposal of the Council for necessary expenses.

It is understood that an advance of funds will be made to the Council by the Powers to which the members of the Provisional Government belong, with the object of providing for the first expenses before the finances of the City have been organized. The sums advanced shall be repaid from the first funds received in the collection of taxes and imposts.

Beside its rights of supreme police control the Provisional Government shall be invested with corresponding judicial power. It may inflict punishment on natives, confiscate their goods, and in case of necessity punish them with banishment and death. As regards foreigners, both military and civil, the Council shall exercise over them only rights of police. Foreigners who infringe the Regulations shall be arrested and a written statement of the evidence gathered from their examination be immediately drawn up. They shall then be handed over within 24 hours to the military authorities or their proper Consuls.

The Provisional Government shall be assisted by the following departments (1) General Secretary (2) Police (3) Board of Health (4) Treasurer (5) Administration of property belonging to the Government or private individuals who have fled (6) Military (7) Judicial (8) Public food supply.

In addition to these, each member of the Council shall have a private secretary. The functions of each of these departments shall be defined by their names only; as to details they shall be bound by the special instructions of the Council. Each department shall be composed of a chief and of a subordinate staff according to need. The *personnel* of the administration may be chosen from military and civilians alike. All persons attached to the service of a Foreign Government, which shall take part in the administration of Tientsin, shall keep their actual posts as well as the additional appointments, just as in the case of those who serve the Provisional Government without occupying any official position."

Under these Regulations the following appointments have been made:—

Members of the Council:—Major-General de Wogack (Russian); Colonel Aoki (Japanese); Lieut.-Colonel Bower (British); General Secretary Mr. Chas Denby, Jr. (American); Chief of Police Captain Mockler (British); Treasurer Mr. C Kamo (German); Medical Officer Dr. Dassas (French); Magistrate Mr W S. Emens (American) and Chinese Secretary Mr. C. D Tenney (American).

The other departments have not been filled up. Mr. F. Sommer has been put in charge of the Salt and Grain, as head of a sub-department of the Treasury.

Baron Gunsberg and Mr. J. B Eames have been appointed the private secretaries of General de Wogack and Colonel Bower respectively. Mr. P. Bauer (Austrian) is secretary to Capt. Mockler, and Mr. Francis Brown (British) is Secretary to Mr. Denby. Mr. H B. Stewart has been appointed Inspector of Chinese Police.—"P. & T. Times."

No. 422

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



October 4th, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegrams of August 25th and September 5th. Payment of Legation's official telegrams.

No. 422

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 4th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, Department's telegrams of August 25th and September 5th,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED.

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 25, 1900.

CONGER,

PEKING.

CONSUL CHEFOO INSTRUCTED FORWARD PREPAID YOUR TELEGRAMS AS REQUESTED.

(SIGNED) ADEE.

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 5th, 1900.

CONGER, MINISTER,

PEKING.

COMMUNICATED RAGSDALE INSTRUCTING IN REGARD TO TELEGRAMS.

(SIGNED) HILL, ACTING.

No. 423

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 5 1900
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEXED FILED NO.
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October 4th, 1900.

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Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegrams of September 22nd and 29th and Legation's of October 1st, 3rd and 4th. Imperial Decree published announcing punishment of officials implicated in recent troubles in China. United States policy in China.

No. 443

Confidential.

Peking and Tientsin and Legation's of October 1st, 3rd and 4th. Imperial Decree published announcing punishment of officials implicated in recent troubles in China. United States policy in China.

No. 423

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 4th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm Department telegrams of September 22nd and 29th and mine of October 1st, 3rd and 4th. I also enclose copy of Imperial decree mentioned in my telegram of the 3rd instant, and which has today been received by the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps from Prince Ching. The punishments so far as named are grossly inadequate. Titles of nobility can easily be restored, and it is not uncommon for a Chinese officer to be degraded, and soon thereafter to be reinstated or promoted to a higher place. Governor Yü Hsien and General Tung Fu-hsiang who, with the exception of Prince Tuan, were the worst of all, are not mentioned in the decree.

The question of punishment is most important but, in my judgment, it may well be left until after preliminary negotiations are begun.

The arrival of Li Hung-chang is still awaited. More German troops are arriving, while American and Japanese are being

October 19th, 1900.

To the Honorable

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm Department telegrams of October 18th and 19th. I also enclose copy of Imperial decree received during absence of the Grand Secretary, entrusted with temporary charge of the Office of the Diplomatic Corps from Prince Ching. The punishments as far as named are grossly inadequate. Titles of nobility can easily be restored, and it is not uncommon for a Chinese officer to be degraded, and soon thereafter to be reinstated or promoted to a higher place. Governor Yu Hsien and General Tung Fu-hsiang who, with the exception of Prince Tuan, were the worst of all, are not mentioned in the decree.

The question of punishment is most important but, in my judgment, it may well be left until after preliminary negotiations are begun.

The arrival of Li Hung-chang is still awaited. More German troops are arriving, while American and Japanese are

STATE

being withdrawn. The Foreign Ministers all seem to be waiting

definite instructions, so no apparent progress is being made.

However, I shall do whatever I properly may to facilitate the

preliminary negotiations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Imperial Decree as above.

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED.

CONGER, MINISTER,

PEKING.

WASHINGTON 22nd., PART ONE. ON SEPTEMBER SEVENTEENTH THE CHINESE MINISTER PRESENTED COPY OF CIRCULAR TELEGRAM FROM PRINCE CHING ANNOUNCING APPOINTMENT AS THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONJOINTLY WITH LI HUNG-CHANG TO NEGOTIATE PEACE AND REQUESTING THAT UNITED STATES MINISTER AT PEKING BE INSTRUCTED TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS. THE FOLLOWING REPLY HAS BEEN MADE TODAY TO CHINESE MINISTER. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTS THE PLENIPOTENTIARY AUTHORITY OF EARL LI HUNG-CHANG AND PRINCE CHING AS PRIMA FACIE SUFFICIENT FOR THE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARDS THE RETURN OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND TO THE RESUMPTION OF AUTHORITY AT PEKING AND TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATIONS OF A COMPLETE SETTLEMENT BYTHE DULY APPOINTED PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE POWERS AND OF CHINA. TO THESE ENDS THE UNITED STATES MINISTER IN PEKING WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING AS THE IMMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND EMPEROR.

PART TWO. ON SEPTEMBER SEVENTEENTH THE RUSSIAN CHARGE DELIVERED A MEMORANDUM INQUIRING: 1ST. WHETHER THE UNITED STATES

STATES INTENDS TO TRANSFER ITS LEGATION FROM PEKING TO TIEN-TSIN: 2ND. IF FULL POWERS OF PRINCE CHING AND LI HUNG-CHANG ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES AS SUFFICIENT: AND 3RD. IF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO CHARGE ITS REPRESENTATIVES TO ENTER FORTHWITH UPON PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE CHINESE EMPEROR. THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM IN REPLY HAS BEEN SENT TO THE RUSSIAN CHARGE. 1ST. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT ANY PRESENT INTENTIONS TO WITHDRAW ITS LEGATION FROM PEKING. 2ND. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTS THE PLENIPOTENTIARY AUTHORITY OF EARL LI HUNG-CHANG AND PRINCE CHING AS PRIMA FACIE SUFFICIENT FOR THE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARDS THE RETURN OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE RESUMPTION OF ITS AUTHORITY AT PEKING AND TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATIONS OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT BY THE DULY APPOINTED PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE POWERS AND OF CHINA. THREE. TO THESE ENDS THE U.S. MINISTER IN PEKING WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING.AS THE IMMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHINESE EMPEROR.

PART THREE. ON SEPTEMBER 18TH THE GERMAN CHARGE COMMUNICATED BY NOTE THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CIRCULAR PROPOSITION THAT AS PREREQUISITE TO ANY NEGOTIATION THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHALL DELIVER THE REAL RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF CRIMES AGAINST INTER-

NATIONAL

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TSIN: 2ND. IF FULL POWERS OF PRINCE CHING AND LI HUNG-CHANG
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TO ENTER FORTHWITH UPON PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
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TO WITHDRAW ITS LEGATION FROM PEKING. 2ND. THE GOVERNMENT OF
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PRINCE LI HUNG-CHANG AND PRINCE CHING AS PRIMA FACIE SUFFICIENT
FOR THE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARDS THE RETURN
OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE RESUMPTION OF ITS
AUTHORITY AT PEKING AND TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATIONS OF COMPLETE
SETTLEMENT BY THE DULY APPOINTED PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE
POWERS AND OF CHINA. THIRD. TO THESE ENDS THE U.S. MINISTER
IN PEKING WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH
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THE CHINESE EMPEROR.

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BY NOTE THE IMPERIAL GERMAN CIRCULAR PROPOSITION THAT AS PRE-
REQUISITE TO ANY NEGOTIATION THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHALL
DELIVER THE REAL RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF CRIMES AGAINST INTER-
NATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL LAW RECENTLY PERPETRATED IN CHINA. TO THIS THE FOLLOWING NOTE HAS BEEN HANDED THE GERMAN CHARGE TODAY. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR INQUIRY OF THE 16TH INSTANT AS TO THE ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN REGARD TO THE EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT OF THE NOTABLE LEADERS IN THE CRIMES COMMITTED IN PEKING AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LAW I HAVE THE HONOR TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS FROM THE OUTSET PROCLAIMED ITS PURPOSE TO HOLD TO THE UTTERMOST ACCOUNTABILITY THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF ANY WRONGS DONE IN CHINA TO CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR INTERESTS AS WAS STATED IN THE GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR COMMUNICATED TO THE POWERS OF JULY THIRD LAST. THESE WRONGS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED NOT ALONE IN PEKING BUT IN MANY PARTS OF THE EMPIRE AND THEIR PUNISHMENT IS BELIEVED TO BE AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF ANY EFFECTIVE SETTLEMENT WHICH SHALL PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF SUCH OUTRAGES AND BRING ABOUT PERMANENT SAFETY AND PEACE IN CHINA. IT IS THOUGHT HOWEVER THAT NO PUNITIVE MEASURES CAN BE SO EFFECTIVE BY WAY OF REPARATION FOR WRONGS SUFFERED AND AS DETERRENT EXAMPLES FOR THE FUTURE AS THE DEGRADATION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS BY THE SUPREME IMPERIAL AUTHORITY ITSELF AND IT SEEMS ONLY JUST TO CHINA THAT SHE SHOULD BE AFFORDED IN THE FIRST INSTANCE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO THIS AND THUS REHABILITATE HERSELF BEFORE THE WORLD. BELIEVING THUS AND WITHOUT ABATING IN

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INTERNATIONAL LAW RECENTLY PERPETRATED IN CHINA. TO THIS THE FOLLOWING NOTE HAS BEEN HANDED THE GERMAN CHARGE TODAY. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR INQUIRY OF THE 17TH INSTANT AS TO THE ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN REGARD TO THE EXAMINATION OF THE MOSCOW DIARY IN PEKING AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LAW I HAVE THE HONOR TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS FROM THE OUTSET PROCLAIMED ITS PURPOSE TO HOLD TO THE UTTERMOST THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF ANY WRONGS DONE IN CHINA TO CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR INTERESTS AS WAS STATED IN THE GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR COMMUNICATED TO THE POWERS OF JULY 16TH LAST. THESE WRONGS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED NOT ALONE IN PEKING BUT IN MANY PARTS OF THE EMPIRE AND THEIR PUNISHMENT IS REGARDED TO BE AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF ANY EFFECTIVE SETTLEMENT WHICH SHALL PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF SUCH OUTRAGES AND BRING ABOUT PERMANENT SAFETY AND PEACE IN CHINA. IT IS THOUGHT HOWEVER THAT PUNITIVE MEASURES CAN BE NO EFFECTIVE BY WAY OF REPARATION FOR WRONGS SUFFERED AND AS EXAMPLES FOR THE FUTURE AS THE DEGRADATION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS BY THE SUPREME IMPERIAL AUTHORITY ITSELF AND IT SEEMS ONLY JUST TO CHINA THAT SHE SHOULD BE APPOINTED IN THE FIRST INSTANCE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO THIS AND THUS REHABILITATE HERSELF BEFORE THE WORLD. BELIEVING THUS AND WITHOUT ABATING IN

ANY

ANY WISE ITS DELIBERATE PURPOSE TO EXACT THE FULLEST ACCOUNTABILITY FROM THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF THE WRONGS WE HAVE SUFFERED IN CHINA THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS NOT DISPOSED AS A PRELIMINARY CONDITION TO ENTERING INTO DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO JOIN IN DEMAND THAT SAID GOVERNMENT SURRENDER TO THE POWERS SUCH PERSONS AS TO THE DETERMINATION OF THE POWERS THEMSELVES MAY BE HELD TO BE FIRST AND REAL PERPETRATORS OF THESE WRONGS. ON THE OTHER HAND THIS GOVERNMENT IS DISPOSED TO HOLD THAT THE PUNISHMENT OF THE HIGH RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF THESE WRONGS NOT ONLY IN PEKING BUT THROUGHOUT CHINA IS AN ESSENTIAL CONDITION TO BE EMBRACED AND PROVIDED FOR IN THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A FINAL SETTLEMENT IT IS PROPOSED BY THIS GOVERNMENT AT THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE MOMENT TO NAME ITS PLENIPOTENTIARIES FOR NEGOTIATING A SETTLEMENT WITH CHINA AND IN THE MEANTIME TO AUTHORIZE ITS MINISTER IN PEKING TO ENTER FORTHWITH INTO CONFERENCE WITH THE DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WITH A VIEW TO BRING ABOUT A PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT WHEREBY FULL EXERCISE OF THE IMPERIAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ORDER AND THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN LIVE AND PROPERTY THROUGHOUT ~~CHINA~~ CHINA PENDING FINAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE POWERS SHALL BE ASSURED. HILL ACTING. REPEATED BY INSTRUCTIONS. BUCK.

ANY WISH ITS DELIBERATE PURPOSE TO EXACT THE FULLEST ACCOUNT-

ABILITY FROM THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF THE WRONGS WE HAVE

SUFFERED IN CHINA TOO GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS NOT

DISPOSED AS A PRELIMINARY CONDITION TO ENTERING INTO DIPLOMATIC

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THAT SAID GOVERNMENT SURRENDER TO THE POWERS SUCH PERSONS AS

TO THE DETERMINATION OF THE POWERS THEMSELVES MAY BE HELD TO

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HIGH RESPONSIBLE AUTHORS OF THESE WRONGS NOT ONLY IN PEKING

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AND PROVIDED FOR IN THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A FINAL SETTLEMENT

IT IS PROPOSED BY THIS GOVERNMENT AT THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE

MOMENT TO MAKE ITS PLENIPOTENTIARIES FOR NEGOTIATIONS A SETTLE-

MENT WITH CHINA AND IN THE MEANTIME TO AUTHORIZE ITS MINISTER

IN PEKING TO ENTER INTO CONFERENCE WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES

DULY AUTHORIZED

OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WITH A VIEW TO BRING ABOUT A PRE-

LIMINARY ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY FULL MEASURES OF THE IMPERIAL

AUTHORITY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ORDER AND THE PROTECTION OF

FOREIGN LIFE AND PROPERTY THROUGHOUT CHINA PENDING FINAL

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE POWERS SHALL BE ASSURED. HULL ACTING.

REPEATED BY INSTRUCTIONS. BUCK.

CONGER, MINISTER,

PEKING.

WASHINGTON 29TH. IN A MEMORANDUM HANDED TO CHINESE MINISTER ON SEPTEMBER 7TH THIS GOVERNMENT LAID DOWN THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT WAS UNWILLING TO NEGOTIATE THROUGH ANY PERSON WHO IS BELIEVED TO SHARE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RECENT OUTRAGES COMMITTED ON FOREIGNERS IN PEKING. EARL LI HUNG-CHANG AND PRINCE CHING, HAVING PRESENTED PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THEIR FULL POWERS AS NEGOTIATORS IMMEDIATELY REPRESENTING THE EMPEROR OF CHINA, AND THE FORMER HAVING GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF AMERICANS IN CHINA WILL BE RESPECTED THEY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEIR PLENIPOTENTIARY AUTHORITY IS ACCEPTED AS SUFFICIENT FOR THE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATONS LOOKING TOWARDS THE RETURN OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE RESUMPTION OF ITS AUTHORITY IN PEKING; AND TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATIONS OF A FINAL SETTLEMENT BY THE DULY APPOINTED PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE POWERS AND OF CHINA. TO THESE ENDS YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING AS THE IMMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHINESE EMPEROR FOR THE PURPOSES ALREADY DEFINED. IN CASE THEIR AUTHORITY CONTINUES TO APPEAR SATISFACTORY IN YOUR PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING YOU WILL OBTAIN VALUABLE GUIDANCE AS TO THE PURPOSES OF THIS GOVERNMENT BY

REFERRING

CONSUL, MINISTER,

PEKING.

WASHINGTON 29TH, IN A MEMORANDUM HANDED TO CHINESE MINISTER ON SEPTEMBER 4TH THIS GOVERNMENT SAID INTER ALIA THAT IT WAS UNWILLING TO NEGOTIATE THROUGH ANY PERSON WHO IS BELIEVED TO SHARE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RECENT OUTRAGES COMMITTED ON FOREIGNERS IN PEKING. EARL LI HUNG-CHANG AND PRINCE CHING, HAVING PREEMPTED PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THEIR FULL POWERS AS NEGOTIATORS IMMEDIATELY REPRESENTING THE EMPEROR OF CHINA, AND THE POWER HAVING GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF AMERICANS IN CHINA WILL BE RESPECTED THEY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEIR PLENIPOTENTIARY AUTHORITY IS ACCEPTED AS SUFFICIENT FOR THE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARDS THE RETURN OF THE IMPERIAL CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND THE RESUMPTION OF ITS AUTHORITY IN PEKING; AND TOWARDS THE NEGOTIATIONS OF A FINAL SETTLEMENT BY THE DULY APPOINTED PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE POWERS AND OF CHINA. TO THESE ENDS YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING AS THE IMMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHINESE EMPEROR FOR THE PURPOSES ALREADY DEFINED. IN CASE THEIR AUTHORITY CONTINUES TO APPEAR SATISFACTORY IN YOUR PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATIONS WITH EARL LI AND PRINCE CHING YOU WILL OBTAIN VALUABLE GUIDANCE AS TO THE PURPOSES OF THIS GOVERNMENT BY

REPEATING

REFERRING TO THE CIRCULAR TELEGRAM OF JULY 3RD WHICH FULLY REPRESENTS THE GENERAL INTENTIONS OF THIS GOVERNMENT. YOU WILL CONSTANTLY BEAR IN MIND THE PRINCIPLE LAID DOWN IN THE MEMORANDUM OF SEPTEMBER 7TH AND WITHHOLD RECOGNITION FROM ALL PERSONS PROPOSED AS NEGOTIATORS NOT ACCEPTABLE AS UNDER ITS TERMS OR NOT POSSESSED OF IMMEDIATE FULL POWERS FROM THE EMPEROR OF CHINA. IN CASE OF FURTHER WRONGS TO AMERICAN LIFE OR PROPERTY ANYWHERE IN CHINA YOU WILL REMIND EARL LI OF THE PROTECTION WHICH HE HAS PROMISED AND INSIST UPON IT AS A CONDITION OF CONTINUED RELATIONS. YOUR LEGATION WILL REMAIN IN PEKING UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTED UNDER THE PROTECTION OF AN ADEQUATE MILITARY GUARD WHICH HAS BEEN ORDERED TO REMAIN THERE FOR THAT PURPOSE; YOU WILL ENDEAVOR TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR SUCH FINAL NEGOTIATIONS AS MAY HEREAFTER BE FOUND NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE DECLARED [illegible] PURPOSES OF THE UNITED STATES, MAKING FULL REPORT OF YOUR PROGRESS AND AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE CONCLUDING DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS.

NO SIGNATURE.

.....

TELEGRAMS SENT.

PEKING, OCTOBER 1,1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON. YOUR

REFERRING TO THE CIRCULAR TELEGRAM OF JULY 3RD WHICH FULLY REPRESENTS THE GENERAL INTENTIONS OF THIS GOVERNMENT. YOU WILL CONSTANTLY BEAR IN MIND THE PRINCIPLE LAID DOWN IN THE MEMORANDUM OF SEPTEMBER 7TH AND WITHHOLD RECOGNITION FROM ALL PERSONS PROPOSED AS NEGOTIATORS NOT ACCEPTABLE AS UNDER ITS TERMS OR NOT POSSESSED OF IMMEDIATE FULL POWERS FROM THE EMPEROR OF CHINA. IN CASE OF FURTHER WRONGS TO AMERICAN LIFE OR PROPERTY ANYWHERE IN CHINA YOU WILL REMIND HARL LI OF THE PROTECTION WHICH HE HAS PROMISED AND INSIST UPON IT AS A CONDITION OF CONTINUED RELATIONS. YOUR LEGATION WILL REMAIN IN PEKING UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTED UNDER THE PROTECTION OF AN ADEQUATE MILITARY GUARD WHICH HAS BEEN ORDERED TO REMAIN THERE FOR THAT PURPOSE. YOU WILL ENDEAVOR TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR SUCH FINAL NEGOTIATIONS AS MAY HEREAFTER BE FOUND NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE DECLARED PURPOSES OF THE UNITED STATES. MAKING FULL REPORT OF YOUR PROGRESS AND AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE CONCLUDING DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS.

NO SIGNATURE.

.....

TELEGRAMS SENT.

PEKING, OCTOBER 1,1900.

SECRETARY.

WASHINGTON.

YOUR

YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM SEPTEMBER 22ND COMMUNICATING REPLIES TO CHINESE, RUSSIAN AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS RECEIVED YESTERDAY.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

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PEKING, OCTOBER 3RD, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

IMPERIAL DECREE SEPTEMBER 25 ACKNOWLEDGES RESPONSIBILITY OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR RECENT TROUBLE EMPEROR ACCEPTING HIS SHARE. DEPRIVES PRINCES CHUANG I, TSAI LIEN AND TSAI YING OF ALL TITLES OF NOBILITY, REMOVES PRINCE TUAN FROM OFFICE AND HANDS HIM OVER TO IMPERIAL CLAN COURT FOR DETERMINATION OF PUNISHMENT AND HANDS OVER DUKE LAN, YING NIEN, KANG I AND CHIAO SHU CHIAO TO PROPER BOARDS FOR PUNISHMENT. HE IS EVIDENTLY FEELING HIS WAY BUT MORE SEVERE AND LASTING PUNISHMENT MUST BE INSISTED UPON FINALLY AND OTHERS INCLUDED.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

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PEKING, OCTOBER 4,1900.

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM OF SEPTEMBER 29TH. (SIGNED) CONGER.

YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM SEPTEMBER 22ND COMMUNICATING REPLIES TO CHINESE, RUSSIAN AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS RECEIVED YESTERDAY.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

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WASHINGTON.

IMPERIAL DECREE SEPTEMBER 25 ACKNOWLEDGES RESPONSIBILITY OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR RECENT TROUBLE EMPEROR ACCEPTING HIS SHARE. DEPRIVES PRINCES CHUANG I, TSAI LIEN AND TSAI YING OF ALL TITLES OF NOBILITY, REMOVES PRINCE TUAN FROM OFFICE AND HANDS HIM OVER TO IMPERIAL CLAN COURT FOR DETERMINATION OF PUNISHMENT AND HANDS OVER DUKE LAN, YING NIEN, KANG I AND CHIAO SHU CHIAO TO PROPER BOARDS FOR PUNISHMENT. HE IS EVIDENTLY PEELING HIS WAY BUT MORE SEVERE AND LASTING PUNISHMENT MUST BE INSISTED UPON FINALLY AND CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDED.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

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PEKING, OCTOBER 4,1900.

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM OF SEPTEMBER 29TH. (SIGNED) CONGER.

Enclosure No 1 with despatch No 423

Translation of an Imperial Decree issued by the Emperor at ~~Tai~~ Yuen Fu, Shansi.

On the 25th of September the Grand Secretariat received a Decree as follows:- The trouble at the present time which broke out between China and foreign countries is a revolutionary movement quite out of the ordinary, and has been the cause of bringing calamity upon Us. This was not in accordance with Our wish, and it is all d ue to the Princes and Ministers of state having participated in and protected the "Boxer" banditti movement, thus embroiling Us in trouble with friendly nations, causing injury to Our State and Our removing from the Capitol.

We certainly cannot but acknowledge that We are at fault and reprove Ourselves. The Princes and Ministers having without cause stirred up the present trouble, it is urgently necessary that they should have meeted out to them various degrees of a severe form of punishment.

Let Prince Chuang, Prince I, Tsai Lien and Tsai Ying, (the last two Princes of the third order,) be deprived of their their rank or title of nobility. Prince Tuan, We treat(more, leniently and he is hereby removed from all his official appointments and handed over to the Imperial Clan Court for the determination of a severe form of penalty; he is also deprived of his official salary. Duke Lan, and Ying Nien, President of the Censorate, are ordered to be handed over to the Yamen concerned for the determination of a severe form of punishment. K'ang I, Assistant Grand Secretary and

President

Enclosure No 1 with despatch No 423

Translation of an Imperial Decree issued by the Emperor at Tai Yuan Fu, Shansi.

On the 25th of September the Grand Secretariat received a Decree as follows:- The trouble at the present time which broke out between China and foreign countries is a revolutionary movement quite out of the ordinary, and has been the cause of bringing calamity upon Us. This was not in accordance with Our wish, and it is all due to the Princes and Ministers of state having participated in and protected the "Boxer" movement, thus embroiling Us in trouble with friendly nations, causing injury to Our State and Our removing from the Capitol.

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President

President of the Board of Civil Office, and Chiao Shu-chao, President of the Board of Punishments, are to be handed over to the Censorate and Board of Civil Office for the determination of a penalty,- inorderto make an example of them.

We have been charged and entrusted by Our Ancestors with the performance of an important post. Our only hope is to serve and protect the public interests, regardless of others. The Princes and Ministers have not served the country as good statesmen and they have themselves to blame. This is understood by the officials and people of the Empire.

Enclosure No. 4 with Despatch No. 424.

Translation of an Imperial Decree.

President of the Board of Civil Office, and Chiao Shu-chao, President of the Board of Punishments, are to be handed over to the Censorate and Board of Civil Office for the determination of a penalty.- Jordero make an example of them.

We have been charged and entrusted by Our Ancestors with the performance of an important post. Our only hope is to serve and protect the public interests, regardless of others. The Princes and Ministers have not served the country as good statesmen and they have themselves to blame. Ministers of state having participated in and protected the "Boxer" movement, thus embroiling Us in trouble with friendly nations, causing injury to Our State and Our removing from the Capitol.

We certainly cannot but acknowledge that We are at fault and reprove Ourselves. The Princes and Ministers having without cause stirred up the present trouble, it is urgently necessary that they should have meeted out to them various degrees of a severe form of punishment.

Let Prince Chuang, Prince I, Tsai Lien and Tsai Ying, (the last two Princes of the third order,) be deprived of their rank or title of nobility. Prince Tuan, We treat(more leniently and he is hereby removed from all his official appointments and handed over to the Imperial Clan Court for the determination of a severe form of penalty; he is also deprived of his official salary. Duke Lan, and Ying Yin, President of the Censorate, are ordered to be handed over to the Kuan concerned for the determination of a severe form of punishment. Kuan I, Assistant Grand Secretary and

President

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

File 94

From Peking,

October 4, 1900.

Via Taku, Received 6.20 AM

October 5, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

October 4th. I have the honor to acknowledge your cipher telegram of September 29.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 5, 9.24 AM *190* , *M.*

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
7 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, October 5th 1900

Dear Mr Secretary,

As of possible interest, I enclose a letter written to me about a month ago by Dr Hykes, the Agent here of the American Bible Society, and an old resident in China. I have found all the information he has given me quite reliable though of course neither he nor any foreigner can vouch for the truth of the allegation in the wording of the decree in question.

I also enclose a clipping from

this morning's News the contents of which I think true to a great extent. Everything tends to show that the Yangtze Viceroys are not in favor with the Court. This is the more unfortunate as they are the only two great officers - so far as we know, on whom we can count for aiding in the restoration of order.

I leave to-morrow morning for Nanking and Hankow to see them, and shall telegraph you the results of my conversation with them.

Faithfully yours

W. W. Rockhill

THE FAITHFUL VICEROYS.

A Nanking letter from our native correspondent states as follows: Now that the Empress Dowager and her advisers have had a little breathing-space they seem to be seeking a way to destroy the Viceroys and Governors in the south-eastern provinces who refused to recognise the "decrees" of Prince Tuan's rebel Government between June and July last. As it would manifestly be imprudent to proceed against the "culprits" in a body, the Reactionists have decided to intrigue against their enemies singly, in connection with which they have now begun on Viceroy Liu K'un-yi of Nanking as their first prospective victim. This is shown in the decrees issued from Taiyuanfu, Shansi, at the end of last month in which they have saddled as many Manchus and men of their own reactionist views as possible upon Viceroy Liu. For instance, Sung Shou (Manchu) is made Governor of Kiangsu (Soochow); Ching Sing (Manchu) is made Governor of Kiangsi; there is also already a Manchu, En Shou, as Provincial Treasurer of Kiangning (Nanking) and with the proposed promotion of the Provincial Treasurer at Soochow, Nieh Chih-kuei, to the Governorship of Chêkiang, there is to be a Manchu (probably Yung Ch'uan, Provincial Judge of Chêkiang) to succeed Nieh at Soochow. Of the three provinces of Kiangsu, Kiangsi, and Anhui belonging to the Liangkiang Viceroyalty, H.E. Liu K'un-yi will now have the Governors of Kiangsu and Kiangsi and his more immediate Treasurers (Nanking and Soochow) all Manchus, the only exception being the Governor and Treasurer of Anhui province, namely, Wang Chih-Ch'un and Tang Shou-min, who are Chinese. Moreover, it is also reported that Governor Wang Chih-ch'un is about to be transferred, in which case a Manchu will surely be sent to take his (Wang's) place at Ngan-king. With such protégés of the Reactionist Party around him and intimately concerned with him in the government of the Liangkiang provinces, H. E. Viceroy Liu K'un-yi is expected by them to become so disgusted and harassed by their intrigues and opposition that H. E will be forced to resign his post and then——? The next victim will be, of course, Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of the Hukuang provinces, where H. E. is already harassed enough by his reactionary Governors and Treasurers of Hunan and Hupeh, who, it must be confessed with shame, are Chinese themselves, but parasites of Tuan and Kang Yi. A very little pressure will suffice to force Viceroy Chang Chih-tung out of office—and then the fate of the third, namely, Yuan Shih-kai, Governor of Shantung, who is already being clipped of his wings by his troops being ordered to Chihli, will be a matter of more easy manipulation. Such intrigues will be safer to the wire-pullers than force or denunciations. In conclusion it may be stated that a very wealthy salt monopolist at Nanking named Hsü, who has been almost the right-hand man to Viceroy Liu K'un-yi, in whom H.E. has always placed the utmost confidence, especially whenever funds have been wanting to supply the voracious appetites of the sharks in Peking, was denounced lately by Lu Ch'uan-lin at Taiyuanfu, in consequence of which a special decree has been issued commanding Hsü's arrest and confiscation of his vast property in lands, shops, pawnshops, etc., etc. This will, it is expected, cripple Viceroy Liu K'un-yi considerably and lay him more open to the attacks of his enemies.

大清教主教皮洋產教堂洋員洋商等人一概從

滅清劉無庸親王往楼大高之云

The Chinese text of the clause referred to

CIRCULATION MORE THAN 6.000.000.

CHINA AGENCY OF THE

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

CABLE ADDRESS "BIBLES SHANGHAI."

Bibles for sale in all languages,

REV. JOHN R. HYKES, D.D., AGENT.

Sroom & Shipping Department on Ground Floor.

Entrance on Kiangsi Road.
14. Kiukiang Road.

Shanghai, Sep. 6, 1900.

Dear Mr. Rockhill —

I have thought that the enclosed lists might be of use to you. I have made them up for my Society, and I can vouch for their correctness.

An Imperial Decree was issued by the Empress Dowager on the 22d of June, at the suggestion of Prince Tuan, who further requested that it be given Shen Chin Ching to telegraph to all the Viceroys and governors, in which the following clause occurred:—

"No matter whether it be foreign houses or chapels; missionaries, native converts, ~~merchants~~ foreign merchants or officials, all are to be destroyed by fire or painfully executed, without regard to consequences." Upon seeing this clause in the Edict Shen was greatly alarmed and suggested to Queen Dowager Yung Lu that they entreat

the Empress Dowager to protect the foreigners. Jung said that it was a matter that must not admit of delay, and he took a pen and changed the characters 殲滅痛剿 (destroy by fire and painfully extirpate) to 盡力保護 (protect to the extent of ability); and the telegram in its altered form was sent. This is the history of the first edict (so-called) for the protection of foreigners, and which was sent only two days after the first edict calling for their extermination. Undue capital was made out of this humane edict by Li Hung Chang and the Chinese Minister at Washington. But both Shen and Jung were executed by the Empress Dowager. You will perhaps remember that it was reported that they were killed because they interceded with the Dowager to spare the lives of the foreigners. The above is now supposed to be the true version of this affair.

Yours sincerely,

John R. Hykes

I think I can get the other edict tomorrow.

No. 424

DIPLOMATIC,

INDEX BUREAU
DEC 5 1900
3 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Dec. 8, C.

October 6th, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of the 3rd and Legation's reply of the 6th. Punishment of officials implicated in recent troubles.

H & H.

Note: Correction in tel. of
6 ct. 3d.

No. 424.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 6th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:-

Confirming, on the overleaf, Department's telegram of the 3rd instant and my reply of today,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. (Partly in Cipher.)

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 3RD, 1900.

CONGER, MINISTER,

PEKING.

THE CHINESE MINISTER HAS COMMUNICATED EDICT OF TWENTY-FIFTH SEPTEMBER WHEREBY PRINCE CHWANG, PRINCE YIH, SECONDARY PRINCES TSAI LIN AND TSAI YANG ARE DEPRIVED OF ALL THEIR RESPECTIVE RANKS AND OFFICES; PRINCE TUAN IS DEPRIVED OF OFFICE AND IS HANDED OVER TO THE IMPERIAL CLAN COURT WHICH SHALL CONSULT AND DECIDE UPON A SEVERE PENALTY AND HIS SALARY IS TO BE STOPPED; DUKE TSAI LAN AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENSOR ATE YING NIEN ARE HANDED OVER TO THE SAID BOARD WHO SHALL CONSULT AND DECIDE UPON A SEVERE PENALTY AND KANG I ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT OF THE CIVIL BOARD AND CHIAO SHU-CHIAO PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF PUNISHMENTS ARE HANDED OVER TO THE BOARD OF CENSORS WHO SHALL CONSULT AND DECIDE UPON A PENALTY. THIS EDICT, IF EMBRACING ALL THE HIGH RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS TO WHOM THE CRIMES AND WRONGS AGAINST FOREIGN LEGATIONS AND CITIZENS ARE IMPUTABLE, AND IF LEADING TO CONDIGN calculated to (undecipherable) PUNISHMENT..... WILL SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE WHICH SHALL SAFE GUARD OUR CITIZENS FOR THE FUTURE AND PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF THE DISASTERS FROM WHICH WE AND OTHER POWERS HAVE SUFFERED, MAY BE REGARDED AS A NOTABLE STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF PEACE AND ORDER IN CHINA.

YOU

YOU WILL REPORT AT ONCE:

FIRST: IF THE LIST GIVEN IN THE EDICT CORRECTLY AND SATISFACTORILY ENUMERATES THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORS.

SECOND: IF THE PUNISHMENTS PROPOSED ACCORD WITH THE GRAVITY OF THE CRIMES COMMITTED AND

THIRD: IN WHAT MANNER THE POWERS ARE TO BE ASSURED THAT THESE PUNISHMENTS ARE CARRIED OUT.

YOU WILL CONFER WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES BEFORE ANSWERING THESE INQUIRIES. YOU ARE INFORMED CONFIDENTIALLY THAT THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT ENTERTAINS A VIEW SIMILAR TO THIS.

Ray

(NO SIGNATURE)

.....

.....

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 6,1900.

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

REPLYING YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM OF OCTOBER 3RD ALL AGREE THAT LIST MUST INCLUDE YU HSIEN AND TUNG FU HSIANG THE PROBABLE REASON FOR NOT INCLUDING THEM IS THAT THE COURT IS NOW IN THE CAPITAL OF THE FORMER AND SURROUNDED BY THE ARMY OF THE LATTER. 2ND. ENTIRE PUNISHMENTS NOT YET DETERMINED BUT THOSE MENTIONED BY NO MEANS ACCORD WITH GRAVITY OF CRIMES. 3RD. HAVE NO MEANS AS YET OF ASCERTAINING MANNER OF ASSURING POWERS THAT PUNISHMENTS ARE CARRIED OUT. THIS MAY BE SECURED AS NEGOTIATIONS PROGRESS. HAVE RECEIVED TODAY FROM EARL LI COPY OF IMPERIAL DECREE GIVING HIM FULL POWERS BUT NO INFORMATION AS TO HIS COMING HERE. CONGER.

you will report at once.

FIRST: It has been given in the media correctly and satisfac-

torily demonstrates the principal authors.

SECOND: It has fundamental facsimile with new obvious

errors are carried out.

THIRD: It shall maintain the powers vae to be pushed into action

Powers are carried out.

You will comply with your collaborators before undertaking

further negotiations. You are instructed consultatively that the

German government threatens a visa similar to this.

(No signature)

.....

Acting Secretary of State

Washington.

All agents that list must include by hours and stops by hours

the proceeds reason for not including when it that the courts

or the latter. And, machine participants not the undertaken

but those mentioned by no means agreed with obvious or children.

and. Have no means as yet of ascertaining numbers or accounts

Report that purposes are carried out. This may be secured

as negotiations progress. Have received today from Kent it

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 10 1900
BUREAU.

To War, Oct. 9.
Informally to the President and Secretary Long & Gage.
Adee

From

Via Taku, October 8, 1900.

Received 4.20 P. M.

Copied Oct 12

Confirm.

Secretary of State

Washington.

October 7th. Russians have given to Germans the railway from Yang Tsun to Peking to reconstruct and operate, the former repairing and controlling from Yang Tsun to Shan Hai Kwan. Under this arrangement, it is not believed the road can be quickly repaired or satisfactorily operated. It is proposed by British, American and Japanese commanders to surrender the whole line from Shan Hai Kwan to Peking to the original builder and present general manager, Kinder, to reconstruct at first opportunity. He guarantees that he will reconstruct it immediately. He is reported to be well backed financially, and knows how to build and operate with Chinese labor. As a military necessity, regardless politics, I recommend that Russian, German and French Governments be urged to join in the arrangement. See Chaffee's telegram to Secretary of War.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 8, 5.13 PM, *189*, *M.*

No. 425

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 5 1900
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
3 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Compared G.K.

October 10th, 1900.

Rec'd Dec. 5.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's cipher telegram of 7th.
Necessity for immediately rebuilding railroad
from Peking to Shan-hai-kuan.

0

No. 485

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 10th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram of the 7th instant and to say that the absolute importance of an early completion of the railway from Tientsin to Peking and to Shan-Hai-kuan is acknowledged by all; to Peking for the purpose of supplying the military forces, and to Shan-Hai-kuan for the transportation of coal from the mines at Tongshan and to afford winter communication with the outside world through the new port of Ching-Wan-tao. So far the Russians seem to have failed in the work and it is not believed the Germans, with their meagre Chinese Experience, will succeed any better.

Mr. Kinder, who constructed the road and under whose management it has been ever since, says he is ready to reconstruct it in the briefest possible time, and I am reliably

893.77/8

reliably informed will be financially backed by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and other capitalists. The Russians and Germans would probably consider this simply taking it from the Russian and German Governments and handing it over to the English Government. It would in fact be put into the hands of Englishmen to repair but it would be reconstructed for the Chinese Government to whom it belongs, and would be operated independently of any particular military power, and each paying for whatever service it rendered would all be treated alike; - hence the recommendation in my telegram.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 7TH, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

OCTOBER 7TH. RUSSIANS HAVE GIVEN TO GERMANS THE RAILWAY FROM YANGTSUN TO PEKING TO RE-CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE, THE FORMER REPAIRING AND CONTROLLING FROM YANGTSUN TO SHAN-HAI KUAN. UNDER THAT ARRANGEMENT IT IS NOT BELIEVED THE ROAD CAN BE QUICKLY REPAIRED OR SATISFACTORILY OPERATED. IT IS PROPOSED BY BRITISH, AMERICAN AND JAPANESE COMMANDERS TO SURRENDER THE WHOLE LINE FROM SHANHAI-KUAN TO PEKING TO THE ORIGINAL BUILDER AND PRESENT GENERAL MANAGER, MR. KINDER TO RECONSTRUCT AND OPERATE. HE GUARANTEES THAT HE WILL RECONSTRUCT IT IMMEDIATELY. HE IS REPORTED TO BE WELL BACKED FINANCIALLY AND KNOWS HOW TO BUILD AND OPERATE WITH CHINESE LABOR. AS A MILITARY NECESSITY, REGARDLESS OF POLITICS, I RECOMMEND THAT RUSSIAN, GERMAN AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTS BE URGED TO INSTRUCT THEIR MILITARY COMMANDERS IN CHINA TO JOIN IN THE ARRANGEMENT. SEE CHAFFEE'S TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF WAR.

CONGER.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 29 1900
BUREAU.

Confirm

From Nanking

October 11, 1900.

Received 9.30 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Tenth.

I arrived Nanking eighth. Viceroy is adverse to again memorializing Emperor return to Peking. Urges ~~renewal re-~~ prior requirement ~~quests~~ United States ask all Powers to unite demanding exemplary punishment guilty princes and high officials. He telegraphed yesterday Li in the sense of the restoration of peace and the return of the Emperor Peking will follow. The Emperor is afraid do so while foreign troops occupy the Capital. Thinks expedition to Pao-ting-fu and other places will delay any settlement. Heartily accepts declared policy United States. Asks that his name be not mentioned in advocating his views. Deeply impressed Viceroy's straightforward manner. Conger has been advised his views. Reach Hankow Monday.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 11, 10.27 AM 90 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

Cable No. 282.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 17 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Copies informally to President and Secy Root. Long & Griffis. Oct. 17.

From United States Legation,
Peking. October 12, 1900

Taku, October 12 1900.

Received, October 14, 1900.
1.22 p.m.

Conferm. Oct 19

Secretary State,

Washington.

October twelfth. Large joint military expeditions started to-day from Tient-sin and Peking for Pao-ting-fu and Chenting-fu. Americans, Japanese and Russian are going. I fear it will delay negotiations. Earl Li arrived yesterday; called to-day; says will be ready for negotiations soon; says he doubts the authenticity of edict my telegram of October seventh

CONGER.

Deciphered by _____

_____, 190 , M.

Note: There is no index or record of Department having received telegram from Mr. Conger of Oct 7, subject: Chinese Edict of Sept. 28.

No. 426

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 15th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegrams of the 7th, 12th and 15th instants.

I am greatly chagrined over having telegraphed the fact of the Edict without qualification, but it came from the same source as other recent Edicts had come, was believed genuine by Sir Robert Hart and other reliable authorities, and so I hurried it along.

In my exchange of calls with His Excellency Li Hung-chang, Generals Chaffee and Wilson with their Aides as well as several minor Chinese officials were present; so the conversation was general and informal and not important to report. He said that because I and others objected to Jung Lu as a Peace Commissioner he would not be brought into the negotiations. He also said that he and Prince Ching had prepared a note which would be forwarded

to

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

to each Foreign Minister to-day enclosing a proposed general convention containing a basis of negotiation. He said it was very simple but very comprehensive. We shall see!

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAMS SENT. (PART IN CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 7TH, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

EDICT SEPTEMBER 28TH ESPECIALLY TO APPEASE GERMANY ORDERS PRINCE TUAN BANISHED, PRINCES CHUANG, I, AND DUKE LAN IMPRISONED FOR LIFE, AND YING NIEN, KANG I AND CHIAO SHU-CHIAO FORTHWITH DECAPITATED.

EARL LI EXPECTED HERE 9TH.

CONGER.

PEKING, OCTOBER 15TH, 1900.

SECSTATE,
WASHINGTON.

6.K.

OCTOBER 15TH. EDICT MY TELEGRAM OF OCTOBER 7TH CAME FROM FORMER RELIABLE SOURCE BUT CANNOT BE VERIFIED. CONSIDER IT FORGERY.

CONGER.

PEKING, OCTOBER 12TH, 1900.

O.K.

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

LARGE JOINT MILITARY EXPEDITIONS STARTED TODAY FROM TIENTSIN AND PEKING FOR PAOTING-FU AND CHENGTING-FU. AMERICANS, JAPANESE AND RUSSIANS NOT GOING. I FEAR IT WILL DELAY NEGOTIATIONS. EARL LI RETURNED YESTERDAY, CALLED TO-DAY. SAYS WILL BE READY FOR NEGOTIATIONS SOON, SAYS HE DOUBTS THE AUTHENTICITY OF EDICT OF SEPTEMBER 28TH.

No. 427

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 15 1900
BUREAU.

Asst Sec'y

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
13 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

October 19th, 1900.

Secretary of State.
DEC 15 1900

Ackn
Dec. 18

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of 16th instant. Chinese proposals for general preliminary treaty. Additions recommended. General situation. Expeditions to Paoting-fu.

No. 427

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 19th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram of the 16th instant and to enclose copy of the Convention submitted by Prince Ching and Earl Li Hung-cahng, their note of transmission and my acknowledgment thereof. The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps also received a brief note requesting the Ministers to visit the Plenipotentiaries to discuss the proposed terms of settlement on the 20th instant or on any other day which might suit their convenience.

1.2.3.

The German Minister has not yet arrived; the new British Minister is here but has not yet taken charge; the French Minister is ill, so there must still be some delay before commencing negotiations . In the mean time I hope to receive reply to my telegram of the 16th instant.

It will be useless for the Foreign Representatives to

meet

meet with Chinese Plenipotentiaries for discussion until the Powers have more fully agreed among themselves. I still think it best, as I have already written you, and which I understand is in accordance with the view of the Department, that a Convention the most preliminary possible should be made which shall include the restoration of order, the re-establishment of potential Government, agreements to negotiate, how and when, guarantees of punishment, indemnities and future protection of all foreign rights and interests; to be followed by ~~du~~ due appointment of plenipotentiaries, who shall make as nearly as can be done a general final settlement, leaving as little as possible for separate negotiations between the separate Powers. However, a purpose seems now to be indicated by most of the Representatives here to let the very first negotiations include and settle as much as possible, and let separate negotiations with the various Powers settle the rest.

omit XXXX

Neither the Russian nor the German policy is quite understood here. I still think that Russia intends that final negotiations, or the lack of them will give Manchuria to her absolutely. I believe Germany cherishes the hope of territorial indemnity, and I apprehend that France and Japan will be content with either territorial or money payment. But it seems impossible as yet to ascertain here just what the several Powers desire to or will do.

The

The expeditions which left here and Tientsin for Paoting-fu some days since met with no opposition on the way, and the city was surrendered on their approach without firing a gun.

We have no information of their determination as to proceeding further into the interior or returning, though it is reported that the French and German troops will remain there indefinitely, the former because of their and the Belgian interest in the railraod, and the latter for what reason is not known.

Count von Waldersee is here, but further great international movements appear not to be necessary. Chinese soldiers- so says Li Hung-chang- having been ordered not to fire on or oppose the movements of the foreign armies in any way. This seems to be confirmed by the reports from the Paoting-fu expeditions, and indicates a practical suspension of hostilities in this Province.

I have seen the French proposals and anxiously await your views thereon. Lord Salisbury telegraphed the British Minister that all the Governments have agreed to them.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM SENT (CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 16TH, 1900.

SECSTATE,
WASHINGTON.

OCTOBER 16TH. PRINCE AND EARL SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING AS A GENERAL PRELIMINARY TREATY AND REQUEST MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS. ARTICLE 1. LAYING SIEGE TO LEGATIONS OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IS A HIGH OFFENSE AGAINST ONE OF THE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,- NO COUNTRY CAN POSSIBLY TOLERATE SUCH A THING. CHINA ACKNOWLEDGES HER GREAT FAULT IN THIS RESPECT AND PROMISES THAT IT WILL NEVER OCCUR AGAIN. ARTICLE 2. CHINA ADMITS HER LIABILITY TO PAY INDEMNITY FOR THE VARIOUS LOSSES SUSTAINED ON THIS OCCASION; AND THE POWERS WILL EACH APPOINT OFFICIALS TO EXAMINE AND PRESENT ALL CLAIMS FOR FINAL CONSULTATION AND SETTLEMENT. ARTICLE 3. AS TO FUTURE TRADE AND GENERAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, EACH POWER SHOULD DESIGNATE HOW THESE MATTERS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH,- WHETHER THE OLD TREATIES SHALL CONTINUE OR NEW CONVENTIONS BE MADE SLIGHTLY ADDING TO THE OLD TREATIES, OR CANCELLING OLD TREATIES AND NEGOTIATING NEW ONES,- ANY OF THESE PLANS MAY BE ADOPTED; AND WHEN CHINA HAS APPROVED FURTHER SPECIAL REGULATIONS CAN BE MADE IN EACH CASE AS REQUIRED. ARTICLE 4. THIS CONVENTION WILL BE MADE BY CHINA WITH THE COMBINED POWERS TO COVER GENERAL PRINCIPLES WHICH APPLY ALIKE TO ALL. THIS SETTLED THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL REMOVE THE SEALS THEY CAUSED TO BE PLACED IN THE VARIOUS

PARTS

PARTS OF THE TSUNGLI YAMEN AND THEN THE YAMEN MINISTERS MAY GO TO THE YAMEN AND ATTEND TO BUSINESS AS USUAL. AND FURTHER EACH POWER SHOULD ARRANGE ITS OWN SPECIAL AFFAIRS WITH CHINA SO THAT SEPARATE TREATIES MAY BE SETTLED IN DUE ORDER. WHEN THE VARIOUS ITEMS OF INDEMNITY ARE ALL ARRANGED PROPERLY OR AN UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN COME TO ABOUT THEM, THEN THE POWERS WILL SUCCESSIVELY WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS. ARTICLE 5. THE TROOPS SENT TO CHINA BY THE POWERS WERE FOR PROTECTION OF THE MINISTERS AND FOR NO OTHER PURPOSE, SO WHEN NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN FOR TREATIES OF PEACE EACH POWER SHOULD FIRST DECLARE AN ARMISTICE. EXCEPT TO ACKNOWLEDGE, I AWAIT FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE REPLYING AS MANY POINTS AS POSSIBLE SHOULD BE COVERED BY GENERAL NEGOTIATIONS. IN ADD ITION TO THE ABOVE DRAFT THE GENERAL TREATY SHOULD INCLUDE: 1. COMPLETE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE IN LANDING TROOPS IN CHINA. 2. THE RESTORATION OF ORDER AND RETURN OF IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OR PROOF OF ITS POTENTIAL EXISTENCE . 3. ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF LIABILITY FOR ATTACKS UPON ALL FOREIGNERS AS WELL AS MINISTERS. 4. INDEMNITY FOR EXPENSES AND WRONGS AS WELL AS LOSSES. SOME GENERAL PLAN FOR MEASUREING AND PAYING AND EFFECTIVE GUARANTEES FOR THE FUTURE. 5. PROVISION FOR LEGATION AND RAILROAD GUARDS AND A DEFENSIBLE LEGATION SETTLEMENT. 6. SUBSTITUTE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR TSUNGLI YAMEN. 7. CHINESE CAPITAL TO BE TREATY PORT. 8. ADEQUATE PUNISHMENT OF LEADERS AND ABETTORS.

CONGER.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 427.

.....

Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

Peking, October 15, 1900.

PRINCE CHING-By Imperial Decree President of the Tsungli Yamen and Minister Plenipotentiary, and

LI HUNG-CHANG- Imperial Commissioner and Minister Plenipotentiary with full powers; Senior Reader to the Heir Apparent; Senior Grand Secretary State; Minister of Commerce, Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports, Viceroy of Chihli and Earl of the First Rank,

make the following communication to

His Excellency E. H. Conger,

Minister of the United States, etc., etc., etc.

Last Spring the Boxer bandits made their appearance around Peking and caused the most unheard of calamities; they multiplied so fast that at last they besieged the foreign legations and then the Powers sent troops to Peking and the Court removed to a distant place. If anyone had predicted these events several months beforehand nobody would have believed him. But now the Court is aware that these misfortunes came through the protection given the Boxer banditti by Prince

and

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 427.

.....

Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

Peking, October 19, 1900.

PRINCE CHING-By Imperial Decree President of the Tsungli Yamen and Minister Plenipotentiary, and LI HUNG-CHANG- Imperial Commissioner and Minister Plenipotentiary with full powers; Senior Reader to the Heir Apparent; Senior Grand Secretary State; Minister of Commerce, Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports, Viceroy of Chihli and Earl of the First Rank,

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and Ministers; these delinquents therefore are to be severely punished according to Chinese law as the proper tribunals may decide, and we, Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, have been appointed Plenipotentiaries with Full Powers to open negotiations for peace at once and settle this affair. But our negotiations will not be confined to one country, nor will the questions be the same with all the countries concerned; add to this the unusual nature of the case and it will be seen that the negotiations are beset with difficulties.

In view of this we think it will be better first to settle general questions with the Combined Powers in a special Convention applying to all, and then proceed to negotiate a separate Treaty in detail with each Power as varying conditions will require. This done, the Commercial Treaties may then be settled if any changes are to be made in existing ones and finally Rules for application of Treaty provisions in specified provinces may be made for the common benefit and lasting security of both high contracting parties.

We enclose herewith for your consideration and that of the Diplomatic Corps, copy of draft of the preliminary Convention we propose, and we ask that Your Excellency will telegraph our proposals to your Department of State, with the view to an early settlement of these matters.

Besides

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Besides sending you this copy we have sent similar ones to your colleagues, and we now beg Your Excellency to consider this matter and favor us with a reply.

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Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 427.

.....

Translation of Enclosure with despatch dated Oct. 15, 1900 from Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, Peace Commissioners.

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His Majesty, the Emperor, being oppressed with sorrow for the unexpected events of the past few months, has now appointed the writer, Prince Ching, to return to Peking to verbally express this sentiment, and has given to us, namely Prince Ching and Minister Li Hung-chang full Plenipotentiary Powers to settle all affairs that may come under discussion. As a preliminary we now submit the subjoined draft of Articles proposed for a special Convention between the Combined Powers and China.

Art.1. Laying siege to Legations of foreign Ministers is a high offence against one of the important principles of international law,- no country can possibly tolerate such a thing. China acknowledges her great fault in this respect and promises that it shall never occur again.

Art. 2. China admits her liability to pay indemnity for the various losses sustained on this occasion; and the Powers will each appoint officials to examine and present all claims

for

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 427

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Translation of Enclosure with despatch dated Oct. 15, 1900 from Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, Peace Commissioners.

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Art. 2. China admits her liability to pay indemnity for the various losses sustained on this occasion; and the Powers will each appoint officials to examine and present all claims

for

for final consultation and settlement.

Art.3. As to future trade and general international relations each Power should designate how these matters should be dealt with,- whether the old treaties shall continue, or new conventions be made slightly adding to the old treaties, or canceling the old treaties and negotiating new ones- any of these plans may be adopted; and when China has approved further special Regulations can be made in each case as required.

Art. 4. This Convention will be made by China with the Combined Powers to cover general principles which apply alike to all. This settled, the foreign Ministers will remove the seals they caused to be placed in various parts of the Tsungli Yamen and then the Yamen Ministers may go to the Yamen and attend to business as usual. And further, each Power should arrange its own special affairs with China so that separate treaties may be settled in due order. When the various items o of indemnity are all arranged properly ar an understanding has been come to about them, them the Powers will successive ly withdraw their troops.

Art. 5. The troops sent to China by the Powers were for protection of the Ministers and for no other purpose, so when negotiations begin for treaties of Peace each Power should fir first declare an armistice. Note

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Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 427

.....

Mr. Conger to Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang.

.....

No. 227. Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China, October 17th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of Your Highness and Your Excellency transmitting a copy of a proposed convention prepared by Your Highness and Your Excellency suggesting certain terms as a basis for a settlement of the recent troubles which made it necessary for Foreign Powers to bring troops into China.

I have, as you request, telegraphed the convention to my Government, and shall soon be ready to discuss it with you.

I avail myself of the occasion to assure Your Highness and Your Excellency of my highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,

Peace Plenipotentiaries, etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 427

Note...The Emperor's Treaty.....

are dif. Conger to Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang.

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(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,

Peace Plenipotentiaries, etc., etc., etc.

No. 428

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 13 1900
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
13 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Approve and authorize Draft, against emergency fund?
DEC 13 1900

October 16th, 1900.

Dec. 15

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Requesting approval of expenditure of $514.25 (Mexican) on account of removal of barricades and cleaning Legation after siege. On what account should draft be drawn?

No. 428

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 16th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that at the close of siege this Legation, as well as the surrounding streets, was in a very bad sanitary condition; that there were many barricades to be removed and a general cleaning up necessary in order to make the place habitable, and which could, of course, only be done at the expense of the Legation.

I have expended $514.25(Mexican) and beg to request that this amount be allowed by the Department and that I be instructed on what particular fund to draw my draft.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC, OCT 19 1900 BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY, OCT 19 1900

Answered by cable Oct 19. Confirm both.

From Peking.

October 16, 1900.

Received via Taku,

Oct. 18.

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State,

Washington.

(Ching) (Li)

October 16th. Prince, and Earl, submit the following as a general preliminary treaty, and request meeting with the Foreign Ministers:

Article 1. Laying siege to Legations of the Foreign Ministers is a high offense against one of the important principles of international law. No country can possibly tolerate such a thing. China ackbowledges her great mistake in this respect, and promises that it will never occur again.

Article 2. China admits her liability to pay indemnity for the various losses sustained on this occasion, and the Powers will each appoint officials to examine and present ~~prepare~~ the above mentioned claims for final consultation and settlement.

Article 3. As to future trade and general international relations, each Power should designate how these matters

Deciphered by

, 190 , M.

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Conger 2 *From*

should be dealt with, whether the old treaties shall continue or new conventions be made slightly adding to the old treaties and negotiating new ones. Any of these plans may be adopted, and when China has approved, further special regulations can be made in each case as required.

Article 4. This convention will be made by China with the combined Powers to cover general principles which apply alike to all. This settled, the Foreign Ministers there should remove the seals they caused to be placed in various parts of the Tsungli Yamen. Then the Yamen Ministers may go to the Yamen and attend to business as usual. And, further, each Power should arrange its own special affairs with China so that separate treaties may be settled in due order when the various items of indemnity are all arranged properly, or an understanding has been come to about them. Then the Powers will successively withdraw their troops.

Article 5. The troops sent to China by the Powers were for protection of the Ministers and for no other purpose; so when negotiations begin for treaties of peace, each Power should declare an armistice.

His Excellency to acknowledge.

Deciphered by

, *190* , *M.*

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Conger 3 *From*

I wait for further instructions before replying. As many points as possible should be covered by general negotiations, in addition to the above draft. The general treaty should include (1) complete statement of purpose in landing troops in China; (2) the restoration of order and return of Imperial Government, or proof of its potential existence; (3) acknowledgment by Imperial Government of liability for attacks upon all foreigners, as well as Ministers; (4) indemnity for expenses and wrongs as well as losses -- some general plan for measuring and paying, and effective guarantees for the future; (5) provision for Legation and railroad guards and a defensible Legation settlement; (6) substitute Minister for Foreign Affairs for Tsungli Yamen; (7) Chinese Capital to be treaty port; (8) adequate punishment of leaders and abbettors.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk and Mr. Martin.

Oct. 18, 10.54 AM , *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

OCT 19 1900

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 17 1900
BUREAU.

From Taku,

October 16, 1900.

Received 10:42 A. M.

Confirm.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

October fifteenth. Edict my cipher tele-
gram October seventh came from former 30660 reliable
source, but cannot be verified. Consider it forgery.

C O N G E R.

Received ..... o'clock ..... M.
Deciphered by
Wm. H. Michael, Third Clerk.
..... o'clock ..... M.
Copies delivered to Secretary

Deciphered by .....

....., 190 , M.

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 17 1900
BUREAU.

Copied informally to the President and Secy Root. Long and Griggs - ada Oct 17.

From Hankpw,

Received October 17, 1900.

6.13 A. M.

Confirm

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sixteenth. Arrived yesterday. The Viceroy asks whether the United States would accept removal of personages guilty of present troubles, names to be specified by the Powers, to a place where they would be in impossibility of taking part in the Government of the country, or influencing Imperial Government, this to be done without prejudice, punishment to be settled later and proof [of] complete isolation to be satisfactory to the Powers, as a proof of willingness and ability Imperial Government to restore order and agree to open negotiations with Plenipotentiaries now appointed. On this being done, if acceptable, asks that United States strongly urge acceptance other Powers. His opinion is that this will expedite negotiations. The Viceroy requests you will answer this suggestion. He is associated with Ching and Li and Viceroy Nankin as negotiator. I will be in Shanghai Saturday.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 17, 9.50 AM 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC,

NOV 13 19[illegible]0

BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Shanghai,

October 22, 1900.

Received 9.24 A. M.

Secretary of State.
NOV 13 1900

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-second. Telegram received. Propose going to Peking next week. Full report of general situation will go to you by next Saturday's mail. Request instructions as to length of stay at Peking, as winter is approaching.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 22, 9.39 AM, *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Beirut, Syria,

October 23, 1920.

Received 9:24 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Yearly-account. Telegram received. Propose going to Tripoli next week. Full report of general situation will go to you by next Secretary's mail. Request instructions as to length of stay at Tripoli, as wishes to superintend.

HOSKINS.

Received by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 9:30 A.M.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 22 1900
COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES,
TO CHINA. BUREAU

No.11.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
2 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 22, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.-

I have the honor to confirm the following cablegram received in cipher from the Department under date of the 20th instant; also of my reply thereto of this date.-

"Rockhill, care Goodnow, Shanghai.

Viceroy's suggestion worthy consideration but should be presented by full board of negotiators. You will receive further instructions at Peking where presume you are going.

Hay"

"Secstate,

Washington.

Twenty second. Telegram received. Propose going to Peking next week. Full report of general situation will go to you by next Saturday's mail. Request instructions as to lenght of stay at Peking as winter is approaching.

Rockhill."

Upon receipt of your cablegram I wired the United States Consul at Hankow as follows.-

"Inform Viceroy at once that Secretary State has wired me Viceroy's suggestion as made through me is considered worthy of consideration, but it should be presented by full board of Chinese negotiators."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No.12.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 22 1900
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
2 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 22, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.-

At the request of the Council of the Provisional Government of the Chinese city of Tientsin, I have the honor to transmit for such action as you may deem advisable a communication, with an enclosure, addressed to you by that body under date of the 6th instant.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

Two enclosures.

No. 12.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.
Shanghai, China, October 22, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

At the request of the Council of the Provisional Government of the Chinese city of Tientsin, I have the honor to transmit for such action as you may deem advisable a communication, with an enclosure, addressed to you by that body under date of the 6th instant.

I am, Sir,
W. W. Rockhill
United States Commissioner.

Two enclosures.

NAVY DEPT.
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.
REC'D NOV 28 1900

No. 12.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

Shanghai, China, October 22, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

At the request of the Council of the Provisional Government of the Chinese city of Tientsin, I have the honor to transmit for such action as you may deem advisable a communication, with an enclosure, addressed to you by that body under date of the 6th instant.

I am, Sir,

W. W. Rockhill
United States Commissioner.

Two enclosures.

CONSEIL
Gouvernement Provisoire de
la cité chinoise de Tientsin.

Tientsin, Chine, le 6me October 1900.

Sir:

We, the Council of the Provisional Government of the Chinese City of Tientsin, have the honour to lay before you a copy of a letter addressed by us, on the 20th September, to the Minister of the United States at Peking, presenting a request to have restored to the Provisional Government certain sums of silver seized in the Salt Commissioner's Yamên at Tientsin, on the 11th of July last, by the forces of the United States. We enclose also a copy of the Minister's reply.

Without repeating the arguments advanced in our letter above referred to, we respectfully call your attention to the correspondence and renew our request

To the Honorable John Hay
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington,
D. C.

request that the silver be handed over to the Provisional Government for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the City Government and for the carrying out of public works.

We have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servants,

Colonel Woronoff
Brown Lieut Colonel.
Lt-colonel Aoki



Enclosures:

1. The Council of the Provisional Government to the Minister of the United States, September 20th 1900.
2. The Minister of the United States to the Council of the Provisional Government September 25th 1900.



Enclosure No. 1.

CONSEIL
Government Provisoire de
cité chinoise de Tientsin

Tientsin, Chine, le 20th September 1900.

GOUVERNEMENT PROVISOIRE CONSEIL DE LA CITÉ CHINOISE DE TIENTSIN

Your Excellency:-

The undersigned, Governors of the Chinese City of Tientsin, wish to obtain Your Excellency's support in an attempt to recover, for the use of the Tientsin Provisional Government, certain funds taken possession of by the Forces of the United States and now about to be remitted to America. In explanation we beg to offer the following statement to which we invite your attention.

On the capture of Tientsin by the Forces of the Allied Powers, large quantities of sycee and silver coin were seized in the various yamêns at Tientsin and removed from the city. Part of this silver was in the Yamên of the Salt Commissioner and fell into the hands of the Forces of the United States. This, we are informed, was disposed of at Shanghai, on account of the American Government, for $378.000. U.S. currency.

After the capture of Tientsin the Government

Gouvernement Provisoire de la Cité Chinoise de Tientsin, was created by the Commanders in Chief of the Allied Forces, in order to conduct the affairs of the city and vicinity and to restore order and good government thereto. The powers of this Government are defined by the Réglements Généraux d'Administration pour la ville de Tientsin, copy whereof is herewith enclosed. By these Réglements the Council have the right to dispose of all movable property belonging to the Chinese Government and to employ the sums thus obtained for the expenses of their administration. The Council is charged by the Réglements with the sanitation of the city and the prevention of famine amongst the people. In their general capacity of Governors there are other matters of great importance which devolve upon them, such as the improvement of roads within the city, the widening and deepening of the river to the sea and the inaugurating of public works. In general all the duties

of

of an enlightened government placed at the head of a city, of large population and area but entirely deficient in modern facilities, devolve upon the Council. An opportunity is presented to them to take advantage of the absence of Chinese obstructiveness to introduce reforms which would otherwise require decades for their accomplishment, but which have long been recognized as of pressing importance to trade. It is evident, however, that the first matter to be considered in such undertakings is the item of expense.

The Council has received an advance from the Governments of England, Russia and Japan of £5000 each. This sum is for temporary use only and is to be repaid from the revenues of the Government from taxation. Taxation in a ruined city like Tientsin is an uncertain resource and any taxation at all will fall heavily for a year or more to come upon an impoverished city. The Provisional Government thus finds itself charged with important and expensive

undertakings

undertakings with little taxable property within its reach and with the accumulated funds of the Chinese Government hitherto available for public purposes confiscated by the allied forces.

Appeals have already been addressed to the various powers for the restitution to the Provisional Government of some part of the assets of the previous government which have been seized, and these appeals have met with some success. The British Authorities have presented to the Government a considerable quantity of rice and are supporting the Council in their claims to other property; the Russian Authorities propose to transfer a large quantity of copper cash taken by Russian troops, and it is hoped that, as the needs and the effective work of the Provisional Government become better known, favorable action will be taken in other quarters.

There seems some propriety in asking the Government of the United States to refund

to

to the Council the funds seized by its representatives. The sum, in the first place, while it could be most beneficially employed in public works to the advantage of Chinese and foreigners alike, is too small to be an object of consideration to the United States. It is believed, moreover, that the seizure was not made in pursuance of any definite policy of that Government which has consistently declared that it was not at war with China. It would seem that to devote this money, under competent foreign control, to the urgent needs of the city from which it was taken may prove the best disposition of it.

Should our representations in this matter meet with Your Excellency's approval, we request that a cable message be sent to your Government asking that all of the sum taken, or such part thereof as may not already be turned into the United States Treasury, may be delivered to the Tientsin Provisional Government to be

employed.

employed for the welfare of the population under its control and for the best interests of the mercantile community at Tientsin.

We have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's

obedient servants,

(signed) { H. Bower Lieut Colonel
Lt Colonel Aoki.

To His Excellency

Edwin H. Conger.

Envoy Extraordinary and

Minister Plenipotentiary of

the United States.

Peking.

lis. No. 422.

Enclosure No. 2.



Legation of the United States of America.
Peking, China.
September 25th 1900.

Gentlemen:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 20th instant asking my intervention in your purpose to secure for the use of the Tientsin Provisional Government certain funds said to be in the possession of the Forces of the United States.

The taking and holding of valuable property by the various armies now in China seem to me so essentially a military question, and the action of each army so dependent upon the action of the others at the various stages of the campaigns, that with my present information I am unwilling to interfere.

I will however confer with the Major General Commanding the United States Forces in China, and if necessary communicate with you further.

CONSEIL

further.

I have the honor to be,

Sire.

Your obedient servant,

(signed) E. H. Conger.

Lieut. Colonels Bower and Aoki,

Conseil du Government Provisoire

de la cité chinoise de Tientsin,

Tientsin.

11627
5.
NAVY DEP'T.
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.
REC'D NOV 26
1900

Réglements
Généraux d'Administration
de la
Cité Chinoise
de
Tientsin.

THE TIENTSIN PRESS.

49. VICTORIA ROAD, TIENTSIN.
1900.

RÉGLEMENTS GÉNÉRAUX D'ADMINISTRATION.

La ville de Tientsin ayant été occupée par les troupes alliées il a été décidé de constituer une administration provisoire sous forme de "Conseil du Gouvernement Provisoire de la cité Chinoise de Tientsin."

La juridiction de ce Conseil s'étendra sur la ville même de Tientsin et sur les territoires environnants jusqu'au rempart de terre (mud wall) à l'exception:

1° des concessions etrangères-allemande, anglaise, française et japonaise.

2° des arsénaux, camps, chemins de fer, télégraphes et autres institutions militaires déja occupeés par les troupes alliées.

Le gouvernement Provisoire s'occupera des questions suivantes:

1° Rétablissment de l'ordre et de la sécurité dans l'enceinte de la cité sur le territoire soumis à sa juridiction.

2° Prescription dans la cité, sur ce territoire et aux environs de mesures sanitaires afin de prévenir les maladies epidémiques et autres.

3° Il facilitéra aux troupes alliées le cantonnement et leur procurera des vivres et des moyens de transport:—bêtes de somme, charretes, bateaux, coolies, etc.

4° Il dressera l'inventaire et prendra les mesures nécessaires, pour conserver la proprieté-mobilière et immobilière appartenant au Gouvernement Chinois ainsi que celle des particuliers, délaissée par ces derniers.

5° Il prendra des mesures pour prévenir la famine parmi les indigènes.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire sera representé par un Conseil composé de trois membres jouissant des mêmes droits, élus par la réunion de commandants militaires des Puissauces alliées opérant dans le Pétchili.

Le Conseil, étant l'émanation de toutes les Puissances, jouira sur le territoire qui lui est confié d'une indépendance absolue et fera droit, dans la mesure du possible, à toutes les demandes, qui lui seront adressées, tant par les Commandants des troupes alliées, que par les Consuls des Puissances etrangères.

En cas de divergences entre le Conseil et un des Commandants des troupes alliées ou entre le Conseil et un des Consuls, la question sera soumise à l'arbitrage de la Réunion des Commandants supérieurs des troupes alliées ou à celui du Corps Consulaire selon le caractère du différend.

Si un arrangement ne peut être obtenu par cette procédure, le différend sera soumis à la décision de leurs Gouvernements respectifs.

Le Conseil aura le droit :

1° d'établir et de publier des Réglements aux questions interessant le Gouvernement Provisoire.

2° d'imposer aux indigènes des droits, taxes et contributions et de percevoir les impôts dus au Gouvernement Chinois.

3° Saisir ou prendre sous son controle toutes les valeurs ainsi que les documents, qui se trouveront dans les batiments gouvernementaux et dans les locaux privés, délaissés par leurs propriétaires.

4° de disposer, suivant les nécessités, de tous les biens meubles appartenant au Gouvernement à l'exception de ceux qui appartiennent à l'administration militaire et de proceder à la vente des biens meubles et immeubles confisqués chez les habitants indigènes.

5° d'employer les sommes mises à la disposition du Conseil pour les dépenses nécessaires.

Il est entendu qu'il sera fait au Conseil une avance de fonds par les Puissances aux quelles appartiennent les Members du Gonvernement provisoire à l'éffet de faire face aux premières dépenses avant la regularisation de la situation financière de la ville. Les sommes seront remboursées sur les premiers fonds provenant de la perception des taxes et impôts.

En outre de ses droits de haute police le Gouvernement provisoire sera également investi du pouvoir judiciaire. Il pourra en consequence infliger des amendes aux indigènes, confisquer leurs biens, et au besoin les punir de banissement et de la peine de mort ; en ce qui concerne les étrangers tant militaires que civils, le Conseil n'exercera sur eux que des droits de police. Les étrangers qui contreviendront aux réglements seront arrêtés et proces-verbal de leur interrogatoire sera immédiatement dressé.

Ils seront ensuite remis dans le délai de 24 heures aux autorités militaires ou consulaires dont il relèvent.

Le gouvernement Provisoire sera assisté sous son controle par le service ci après :

1° Chancellerie Générale du Conseil.
2° Service de sureté.
3° Service de santé.
4° Trésorerie.
5° Administration des biens du Gouvernement ainsi que de ceux délaissés par les particuliers.
6° Section militaire.
7° Section judiciaire.
8° Bureau de l'alimentation publique.

En dehors de ces services généraux chaque membre du Conseil a un cabinet particulier.

Les fonctions de chacun de ces services sont définies par leur dénomination même; quand au détails du service ils seront déterminés par des instructions speciales du Conseil.

Chaque section administrative est composée d'un Chef de service et d'un certain nombre d'employés suivant les besoins.

Le personnel de l'administration peut être choisi parmi les militaires et parmi les civils.

Toutes les personnes attachées au service d'un Gouvernement etranger qui feront partie de l'administration de Tientsin conserveront leur poste actuel ainsi que le traitement additionnel dans les mêmes proportions que celui alloué à ceux qui feront partie du Gouvernement Provisoire sans occuper de position officielle.

Il sera établi trois catégories de traitements, selon la position des fonctionnaires.
Chef de service .....£800 par an.
Sous chef ou adjoints .....£600 " "
Employés secondaires .....£300 " "

Les salaires du personnel indigène seront fixés par le conseil.

11627
5.
NAVY DEPT.
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.
REC'D NOV 28
1900

Form No. 282.

DIPLOMATIC,

NOV 13 1900

BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Secretary of State
NOV 13 1900

From Peking, October 23, 1900.

Received via Taku, 9.30 A. M.,

October 24, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-three. No Government has more than one Commissioner, but I should be much pleased with Rockhill as counsel and adviser. Any additional number would embarrass negotiations.

C O N G E R

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 24, 9.57 AM, 190 , M.

Ex No. 282.

Secretary of State
NOV 13 1900

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking,

October 24, 1900.

Received via Taku, 1.15 AM

October 25, 1900.

Conger Nov 17

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-four. Li says Emperor has given no intimation of returning, and no one can speak for him. We may have to accept restored order and punishment of designated leaders as sufficient proof of Imperial authority, without his early return.

C O N G E R

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 25, 10. AM. *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Peking, December 31, 1900.

Received via Tuba, 3:15 p.m.

October 24, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-four. If Jung Lu can obtain
of returning, and no one can speak for him. He may have to
accept restored order and punishment of designated leaders
as sufficient proof of Imperial authority, without him early
return.

G S S R R

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 1900
BUREAU.

Secretary of State.
NOV 13 1900

Confid Nov 13

From Shanghai,

October 25, 1900.

Received 6 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-fifth. Yangtze Viceroys' power is being rapidly undermined, anti-foreign appointments their provinces. Their own removal is not impossible. They are the only high officials sincerely desirous of peace, and their retention present offices essential. The Emperor should be informed that we must insist on it, and will hold all anti-foreign appointments Yangtze Provinces unfriendly acts. Have telegraphed the above the Minister.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk,

10.05 A. M., Oct. 25 *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

No. 429

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Dft

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 13 1900
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
13 DEC 900
DEPT. OF STATE

Secretary of State.
DEC 15 1900

October 25th, 1900.

Jackson Seal. 18

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming cipher telegram of the 19th and Legation's reply of 23rd instant. French propositions. Appointment of Messrs. Rockhill and Wilson as Commissioners.

No. 429

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 25th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your cipher telegram of the 19th and my reply of the 23rd instant.

I have obtained from the French Minister a copy of the French propositions, and think we can use them as a base to work from. The new British Minister is to take charge to-- morrow, when we hope to have a general conference.

My 7th suggestion does mean to put Peking or any other place that may possibly be selected as the capital of the Empire, on the footing of a Treaty Port.

As yet none of the Powers have appointed other then their Ministers to negotiate, or sent advisers or counsel, and I should not like to be the only one for whom such support is deemed necessary. But, realizing the unusually difficult problem before me and knowing Mr. Rockhill's familiarity with the views and policies of the Department of State,

and

and his experience in important special diplomatic work, I should like very much to have his assistance and hope he has already been instructed to join me.

I have no personal objection to General Wilson who I believe would be an ideal Commissioner if a Commission was to be constituted, but since none of the other Powers are creating Commissions, I think our doing so would retard instead of facilitate negotiations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. (CIPHER)

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 19, 1900.

CONGER,

WASHINGTON.

NINETEENTH. YOUR TELEGRAM 16th RECEIVED. CHINESE PROPOSITIONS IN THE MAIN ARE ACCEPTABLE TO US WITH INCORPORATION OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND OF POINTS EXPRESSED HEREINAFTER. DOES YOUR 7th SUGGESTION MEAN PLACING PEKING ON THE FOOTING OF A TREATY PORT. OF SO IT IS COMMENDABLE. FRENCH PROPOSITION OF TERMS IS PROBABLY NOW IN YOUR POSSESSION. IT WAS COMMUNICATED TO ME OCTOBER 4th. MY REPLY IS DATED THE 10th. WE ACCEPT 1ST ARTICLE TAKING CHINESE PUNISHMENT EDICT AS A STARTING POINT, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POWERS TO SUGGEST ADDITIONAL NAMES WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN. 2nd. INTERDICTION OF IMPORTATION OF ARMS IS NOT UNDERSTOOD TO BE PERMANENT. ITS DURATION AND REGULATION PROPER SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION. 3rd. EQUITABLE INDEMNITY IS DESIRED BY ALL THE POWERS. ALL POSITIVELY DISCLAIMING INTENTION OF ACQUIRING TERRITORY. (PERIOD) IN CASE OF PROTRACTED DISAGREEMENT AS TO THE AMOUNT WE WOULD FAVOR RUSSIA'S SUGGESTION TO REMIT THE QUESTION TO THE HAGUE ARBITRATION COURT. 4th. THE UNITED STATES WHILE NOW MAINTAINING PRECAUTIONARY LEGATION GUARDS IS UNABLE TO MAKE PERMANENT ENGAGEMENT WITHOUT LEGISLATIVE AUTHORIZATION. 5th. DISMANTLE TAKU FORTS. THE PRESIDENT WISHES RESERVE

RESERVES OPINION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION IN REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN CHINA. 6th. TO LAND OPERATIONS OCCUPATION ON THE ROAD FROM TIENTSIN. WE CANNOT COMMIT OURSELVES TO PARTICIPATION IN THIS. IT WOULD REQUIRE LEGISLATION, BUT IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THE POWERS OBTAIN FROM THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE OF RIGHT TO GUARD LEGATIONS AND HAVE UNRESTRICTED ACCESS WHEN REQUIRED. WE ARE ADVISED THAT ALL THE POWERS HAVE ACQUIESCED IN IN THE FRENCH PROPOSITION WITH MORE OR LESS RESERVATIONS WHICH, LIKE OURS, ARE NOT CALCULATED TO EMBARRASS NEGOGOTIATIONS. FRENCH NOTE RECEIVED 17th URGES THAT THE POWERS AGREE TO SHOW TO CHINA READINESS TO NEGOTIATE BY COMMUNICATING FRENCH SEVERALLY OR THROUGH DEAN WITHOUT PROPOSITIONS PREJUDICE TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE POINTS RESERVED AS ABOVE. YOU WILL CONFER WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES WITH A VIEW TO DOING THIS. WE ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE THE NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN AS SOON AS WE AND THE OTHER POWERS ARE SATISFIED OF EMPEROR'S ABILITY AND POWER TO DEAL JUSTLY AND STERNLY WITH RESPONSIBLE OFFENDERS AND THE PRESIDENT YESTERDAY SO ANSWERED AN APPEAL OF THE EMPEROR COMMUNICATED BY TELEGRAPH. NO OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE LOST DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO SAFEGUARD THE PRINCIPLE OF IMPARTIAL TRADE TO WHICH ALL THE POWERS ARE PLEDGED. IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTIONS WILSON AND ROCKHILL WILL BE INSTRUCTED

INSTRUCTED TO JOIN YOU TO ACT AS COMMISSIONERS IF THE OTHER POWERS HAVE MORE THAN ONE; OTHERWISE TO ASSIST WITH THEIR COUNSEL.

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 23. NO GOVERNMENT HAS MORE THAN ONE COMMISSIONER BUT I SHOULD BE MUCH PLEASED WITH ROCKHILL AS COUNSEL AND ADVISER. ANY ADDITIONAL MEMBER WOULD EMBARRASS NEGOTIATIONS.

CONGER.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 3 1900
BUREAU.

No.13.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 25th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

To Secy. to President
" Secy. Legation
" Asst. Secy. Dec. 15.

Sir.-

I have the honor to inform you that I left Shanghai on the 6th instant by the U.S.S."Nashville"to visit the Viceroys at Nanking and at Wuchang and to inquire into the state of affairs in the Yang-tze valley.

I reached Nanking on the 8th instant and was informed by our Consul at Chingkiang, Mr.Martin, who is for the time being stationed at Nanking, that the Viceroy Liu K'un-yi would receive me the next day. Accompanied by the Commander of the Nashville and his officers, and by Mr.Martin and Mr.H.T. Smith, I accordingly called on the Viceroy on the day following my arrival and was received by him with the utmost courtesy and every official honor. After a short exchange of formal compliments I had a long private interview with His Excellency. I expressed the gratification which we all feel that such an elightened statesman should be at this critical juncture the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang Provinces and that he should have been able to maintain peace and order amongst the people under his control. He answered that he had but done his duty and that he would continue to do it to his utmost. He said that it was particularly pleasant to him to protect American interests as he had always felt a strong inclination towards our country whose policy in China had always

been,and was especially now,friendly and disinterested. As long ago as the days when he was Governor of Kiangsi he had been ordered by his government to look most carefully after American interests;he would always do so. I stated that the friendly sentiments of His Excellency were so well known and his patriotic and enlightened statesmanship and perfect impartiality so widely recognized that I did not hesitate to speak to him of the present crisis with entire frankness and hoped that he would do the same with me. He knew,I said,by the note of the Department of State to the Chinese Minister at Washington,under date of August 12th,last,the views of my Government on the present crisis. We held that the first step to be taken by the Imperial government was to establish clearly not only its willingness but its ability to restore order everywhere,after which diplomatic negotiations could be begun. Our Minister at Peking,and the other foreign representatives had sent similar notes I believed,had informally written to Prince Ching (I handed him a copy of Mr.Conger's note of September 16th to the Prince)saying that in his opinion nothing would so much tend to establish peace and order as the prompt return of the Emperor to Peking. I insisted at considerable length on the fact that so long as the evil councillors who were responsible for the recent disasters,Prince Tuan,Prince Chuang,Kang-yi and others were around His Majesty,no peace could reign,no negotiations be brought to a successful termination. I therefore asked him if he did not think it advisable for him to memorialize the Emperor urging his return,as Prince Ching and the other high officials now at Peking had done. He replied that when the foreign forces had begun their march on Peking he had telegraphed the Emperor to remain at the capital at all hazards.

Unfortunately his telegram arrived in Peking three days after the Emperor's flight. He then told me,with deep emotion, of the terrible hardships the Emperor had been subjected to when forced to fly from the capital,hidden in a poor mule cart,with insufficient food,clothing and bedding. He said that considering all the circumstances of the Emperor's flight,he could not urge on him to return to Peking,that he felt it his duty to let some time pass,enough to deaden the memory of what he had gone through,before begging him to return to the capital where,furthermore,everything had been destroyed and some plague would probably soon break out. He said that the Emperor had been forced to leave T'ai-yuan Fu in Shansi on account of the impossibility of receiving necessary supplies in that famine stricken province,and to go to Hsi-an Fu in Shensi,but that on no account would he remain away from Peking,his ancestral capital and birthplace,a day longer than absolutely necessary. Hsi-an,he said,was in reality the best place for His Majesty to reside in for the present as it was in telegraphic communication with every point of the Empire. On the subject of the flight of the Emperor and Empress I enclose an account (see Enclosure No.1.) said to have been written by a high Chinese official of the Imperial Court and which has recently been published in a Japanese paper. Much of it agrees with what Liu K'un-yi told me. See also enclosure No.2.

I told him that the Emperor could have nothing to fear from the presence of our troops in Peking,that he doubtless remembered that our Consul General in Shanghai had conveyed to him some time ago the assurances of our Government that His Majesty should be,so far as we were concerned, insured in the full enjoyment of all of the honors due his exalted rank if he remained in the capital. He said that he personally did not for an instant doubt it,but that it was impossible just at present to impress this on the Emperor,

though he knew that he had been,not only strongly adverse to leaving Peking but that he was now most desirous of returning there. (See also enclosure No. 3.)

Admitting his arguments,for the sake of discussion, as well founded,I then asked him how it was possible to remove the Emperor from the evil councillors who still absolutely controlled his actions and who could render abortive every step which might be taken by himself and the high provincial authorities in the Empire for the restoration of order and the opening of negotiations. He replied that he and all Chinese were unanimous in the belief and firm in the determination that these men,"the whole Boxer clique"he called them,must be exterminated;that the guilty Princes and Ministers,must be put to death,for so long as that was not done some of them at least,the Princes he meant,might regain their power. At present he felt himself nearly helpless to secure the adoption by the Emperor of necessary measures, for these very Princes and Ministers wrote the replies to his memorials. His own life was not safe as long as they were in power;their extermination was more necessary to him and the other loyal officials,he added,than to any and all of the Powers.

The Viceroy could not be made to believe that the Emperor could be in a position in which his commands would not be obeyed. He persisted in stating that if the absolute necessity of ridding the Empire of the "Boxer clique" was properly and strongly represented to him,his commands to exterminate them would be promptly obeyed. He pointed to the Imperial edict of September 25th last (see my No.9 of October 3rd)as an indication of the Imperial determination to punish these men and as proving that better councils were

gaining ground,and when I gave it as my belief that the punishment therein ordered had not been inflicted,he said the language of the Edict was so positive that it was inconceivable that they should not be.Though he would not venture, with this Edict before him,to further urge on the Emperor the punishment of these men,he would telegraph Li Hung chang to urge their immediate exemplary punishment,and he said that if all of the Powers would unite in demanding it as a preliminary measure indispensable to the opening of negotiations, he felt sure that it would be promptly secured. He also mentioned the fact of the Emperor having had put to death before his eyes a Boxer chief,as showing his desire and ability to crush them. I enclose a translation of a recent decree on the subject . See enclosure No.4,

Once the guilty Princes and high officials punished,the Viceroy felt sure order would be restored everywhere and the Emperor and Empress could come back to Peking, especially if the foreign troops were in the meanwhile reduced to the size of Legation guards. The good councillors of the Emperor were steadily regaining the ascendancy at Court and would soon be again in control ed affairs. The Edict of September 25th,due entirely to the Emperor,and others he mentioned were proof of this.

After several hours of conversation in which the same arguments were gone over and over again in slightly different forms,I told the Viceroy,that in view of the high esteem in which he was held by our government I would transmit to you by wire the substance of his remarks,after submitting to him the text of my message. I insisted throughout on the urgent necessity of China reestablishing at once peace and order itself;every day of delay meant for it,not only increased demands by the foreign powers,but made more probable further military operations by the international forces. I had just heard that an expedition of this nature

had started from Pao-ting Fu,the next one might be for T'ai-yuan or Hsi-an. He replied that he fully recognized the force of this argument and the ability of foreign troops to go whither they pleased in China,and that his every effort tended to hasten at least a commencement of a settlement of the present troubles. It was his opinion that further military operations would be inadvisable as the evil councillors who now surrounded the Emperor would seek to withdraw him further away where they could continue to rule undisturbed.

The following day the Viceroy returned my visit at the United States Consulate,being too feeble to do so on board the "Nashville",anchored some five miles from his Yamen. The next day (11th instant) after dining with the Viceroy at his Yamen I had another long conversation with him. I showed him the text of the telegraphic dispatch which I proposed sending you (see enclosure No. 5.) and was told that it embodied correctly his views so far as it went. He then wrote the enclosed memorandum (Enclosure No. 6.) and asked that it be also communicated to you. I did not think it necessary,however,to telegraph it to you.

The Viceroy repeatedly sought to exculpate the Dowager Empress,who,he said,was only guilty in having listened to bad advisers and given them a free hand. I gathered from some of his remarks that it might be possible to secure her permanent withdrawal from participation in affairs of State at the proper time.

Throughout my long conversations with the Viceroy I was,as are all those who meet him,deeply impressed by his frank and courteous manner and his evident sincerity. He is clearly in favor of promptly settling,or rather beginning a settlement,of the many questions raised by the present troubles,as are in fact many of the high provincial authorities of China. Many reasons can be advanced for the Vice-

roy's desire,(1)he believes it to be in the best interests of his country,(2) he fears he may not be able to indefinitely preserve order in his provinces from which he may be removed and in which his authority is being undermined by the appointment of anti-foreign Manchu officials;(3) he has committed himself to a policy so absolutely opposed to the views of the ruling party at Court that he can go but little further without putting himself in a state of rebellion,which nothing could induce him to do, (4) he evidently feels that the anti-foreign party at Court still wields a vast power and is not so dismayed by recent events that it is ready to make peace on any terms.He must recognize however that,the easiest policy for China in the present crisis is to let negotiations drag on as long as possible,in view of the apparent inability of the interested Powers to adopt any plan of joint negotiations satisfactory to all,and that their conflicting interests might make separate arrangements with each of them easier and secure more satisfactory terms for China.

I left Nanking on the 15th instant and arrived in Hankow on the 15th. On the 16th the "Nashville"moved over to Wuchang,the Viceroy's,Chang Chih-tung's,capital,and anchored near his Yamen so that he could more easily return my visit.

I was received the same day by the Viceroy with the usual ceremonies,and afterwards had a long private conversation with him. I expressed to him,as I had done to the Nanking Viceroy,my appreciation of the services he had and was still rendering the cause of peace and order by his management of affairs in his provinces and the perfect protection he was affording foreigners and their property,and assurred him that the promise he and the Nanking Viceroy had made and had so perfectly kept of maintaining order in their provinces was a source of sincere gratification to all foreign governments,and that our confidence that they would con-

tinue to do so was entire. Knowing as I did his earnest desire to see order restored he must see the necessity of the Imperial Government taking prompt and effective steps to secure that end, and I would be pleased if he would confide to me his views on the subject. He thanked me for the confidence placed in him, and said that he was well acquainted with the views of the Washington Government on Chinese affairs; that he realizedthat the United States was the only really disinterested Power with which China had relations, the only one which had never made any but reasonable demands of his country. He sincerely hoped that our government would in the present crisis use its good offices in reconciling the views of the various Powers and in promoting a prompt settlement of the pending difficulties. He thought that some step should at once be taken by the Chinese Government to convince the Powers of its determination toopen negotiations, but he did not believe that the Emperor could be induced to return at once to Peking, as suggested by the foreign representatives to Prince Ching, or that it would be possible to secure immediately the adequate punishment of those responsible for the present troubles, as he understood that some of the Powers intended to demand. He suggested that it might, however, be possible to have the bad advisers of the Emperor prohibited from following him to Hsi-an, stripped of all their official rank and otherwise placed in a position where it would be impossible for them to communicate with him or exercise any influence on the direction of affairs. This could be done as apreliminary step to evidence the Emperor's willingness and ability to restore order and would be without prejudice to the final punishment to be meted out to these persons to be decided upon with the Powers and which in the case of the more culpable he thought should be death. He said the Powers could designate the persons they thought

should be thus put under strict surveillance or confined to a given city. They should not ask too many,as those chosen would try and shift their responsibility,the one on the other. I might think,he added,that the suggestion was in the wrong direction;as evidencing a desire to let the guilty finally escape the full punishment they deserved;such was not,however, his intention. He made the suggestion as being in his opinion a practical wasy of rapidly and surely gaining the desired end,making the Emperor once more a free agent and enabling him to convince the Powers of his sincere desire to settle the present troubles. As showing the Emperor's determination to get rid of his anti-foreign entourage,he told me of the manner in which he had dismissed from the public service forever the late Governor of Shansi,Yu Hsien,whose life,the Viceroy said,was only spared on account of the numerous Manchus still around the Emperor and whom he at present feared to render hostile.

I agreed to submit to you the substance of the Viceroy's suggestions and showed him,for his approval ,the text of my telegram of the 16th instant which read as follows.-

"x x The Viceroy asks whether the United States would accept removal personages guilty of present troubles - names to be specified by the Powers - to a place where they would be in impossibility of taking any part in the government of the country - this to be done without prejudice punishment to be settled later and proof complete isolation to be satisfactory Powers as a proof of willingness and ability imoerial government to restore order and agree to open negotiations with plenipotentiaries now appointed on this being done. If acceptable asks that the United States strongly urge acceptance other Powers. Is of opinion that this will expedite negotiations. The Viceroy requests you will answer this suggestion. He is associated with Ching and Li and Viceroy Nan-

king as negotiator. x x "

The Viceroy spoke at great length about the policy of the various Powers in China and evidenced much apprehension as to the designs of Russia. He said that it was the only Power which had not given,and he thought it would not give,categorical assurances of its determination to maintain the integrity of the Chinese Empire.

He also referred to the frequent statements contained in the public press to the effect that all the Powers would insist upon the removal of the Empress Dowager from power,holding her responsible for the present troubles, and asked if this was true. I replied that I was not aware that the United States had made any such statement,that we had declared that the condition existing in Peking,which had necessitated our sending there an armed force,to be one of virtual anarchy, but had not as yet stated who we held to be the responsible authors of the wrongs done us.

The subject of the direct responsibility of the Empress in the present troubles and the possibility of a demand by the Powers for her punishment,is a source of deep anxiety to the Viceroys of Nanking and Wuchang,and,I think, to most of the high Chines officials. The Viceroy Chang shortly before my arrival in Wuchang asked the British Consul at Hankow to telegraph to his government setting forth the difficulties such demand for punishment would surely suscitate;from a Chinese point of view it seems simply impossible that the Emperor should be required to inflict a punishment on his mother - even by adoption,as in the present case.That she may be hereafter prevailed upon not to take any part in the affairs of State is probable,but beyond that it seems highly unlikely that the Chinese can be induced to go. A threat of insisting upon some punishment may,however,at the proper moment have the effect of securing severer punishment of the guilty Princes and high officials.

The general impression I gained from my conversations with Chang Chih-tung, and inquiries made at Hankow confirmed my opinion, was that he had so entirely committed himself to a policy friendly to foreigners that he has gravely imperiled his own safety and intensified the hostility of the still powerful anti-foreign party at Court which he dares not openly brave. A prolonged continuance of the present strained condition of affairs in the Yang-tze valley must tend to lessen his power to maintain order, especially as anti-foreign officials are, as in the provinces of the Viceroy of Nanking, being put in the place of those who have until now efficiently aided him in his work. (See enclosure 7.) Add to this the fact that his resources in men, money and various other supplies are being taxed to the utmost to supply the court at Hsi-an and build up a new army for it, that trade is paralysed, that there is a probability of an outbreak of the secret anti-dynastic societies in his provinces - societies which are known to be, or at least are officially stated to be, leagued with the reform party which in turn has the support of many of the missionaries (just as fifty years ago they gave it to the T'ai-ping rebels), and one must see the imminent danger of an anti-foreign outbreak in this region and the possible spread of rebellion all over the Empire.

The year, from an agricultural point of view, has been a very bad one; furthermore native banks are already heavy losers by the present troubles, are calling in their advances and refusing further loans; the increase of the unoccupied and dangerous classes in the cities, the apprehension of foreign military operations in the Yang-tze valley and various other disturbing causes too numerous to mention, show how difficult must shortly become the task of the two Viceroys of Wuchang and Nanking.

The precarious position of these Viceroys and the all important role they are playing in maintaining the

peace of China is a source of grave concern to the British representatives in the Yang-tze valley,and the necessity of upholding and protecting them adequately,by force of arms if necessary,against the anti-foreign party now in control of the government has been and is still being seriously advocated by them to their home government. Their maintenance in their present offices is of vital importance to all the Powers and too much cannot be done for them. The impression I gained at Nanking and at Wuchang was that while the Viceroys there are sincerely desirous of making a prompt and complete settlement of the present difficulties,they,(and possibly Prince Ching,Li Hung-chang,Yuan shih-kai and a few other high officials may hold similar views),do not represent the general feeling of the governing class,which is still distinctly opposed to a hasty settlement,and believes that by gaining time the movement against the foreigners may be soon renewed under vastly more favorable conditions.

The loss of the capital,the killing of some thousands,or possibly tens of thousands,of Chinese,the destruction of much valuable property and the carrying off of fifteen or twenty millions of money,are not such unheard of calamities in China that the whole empire stands dismayed. The Chinese realize already that the prompt conclusion of peace and the resumption of trade is more important to the foreigners than to them;for they will slowly but surely adjust themselves to the changed conditions if peace is not promptly concluded,and for some time to come at least be able to bear with perfect equanimity the limitations put on their commercial activity. Such at all events it seems may be the reasoning of the anti-foreign Chinese at the present day who it cannot be doubted represent the great majority of the peo-

ple. On the other side, the principal advocates - possibly the only honest ones - of peace, progress and cordial relations with foreign nations are Liu K'un-yi and Chang Chih-tung, both aged and broken down with infirmities, their great influence constantly undermined, their forces taxed to the utmost to keep the peace. The policy of openly supporting them by the presence of a foreign armed force in their provinces, of forcibly preventing if necessary their removal from office, as is now being urged by the consular representatives of Great Britain, may, I fear, have the effect of ruining their influence for good, of destroying all their great power over the people. It would unquestionably result in their losing all influence at Court and thereby deprive us of their invaluable assistance in the present and the future.

Under the circumstances it seems to me that the only course to follow would be for our government to present in the strongest terms to the Emperor, through Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, our protest against any anti-foreign appointments in the Yang-tze Provinces and the removal of the two Viceroys from their present offices, and to declare that we shall hold any such attempt or any appointments of notoriously anti-foreign officials as unfriendly acts. Should the Viceroys be removed from their offices it would be better to my mind to stop all negotiations, for I confidently believe that without them nothing of a satisfactory nature can be accomplished looking to a lasting restoration of peace and order.

In view of the above considerations I have cabled you as follows, advising also our Minister at Peking.-

" Twenty-fifth. Yang-tze Viceroys' power is being rapidly undermined anti-foreign appoinments their provinces, their own removal is not impossible. They are the only high officials sincerely desirous of peace, and their retention present offices absolutely essential. The Emperor should be

informed we must insist on it and will hold all anti-foreign appointments Yang-tze provinces unfriendly acts. Have telegraphed the above to the Minister. "

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

Seven enclosures.

October 26th I have shown the above despatch to Admiral Remey, who arrived here yesterday W.W.R.

Enclosure No.1.

5TH OCTOBER, 1

IMPERIAL DECREES.

30th September.

THE REASON FOR MOVING TO HSIAN.

(1) During our journey we have escorted the Empress Dowager as far as this city of Taiyuanfu where we have already remained nearly 20 days. Owing, however, to the famine which is now raging in this province of Shansi and the great difficulty therefore of feeding the thousands of baggage animals and the tens of thousands of horsemen that are congregated here, when, moreover, food is dear and the people over-burdened, we feel more racked with sorrow than ever whenever we think of these things, and cannot, therefore, rest in peace here. Moreover Taiyuanfu is not connected by direct telegraph with the rest of the Empire and much loss of time and delay is experienced in obtaining early and important news from Peking and elsewhere. In consideration of all this, therefore, we are compelled to select to-morrow's date (8th day, 8th intercalary month) for the continuation of our journey west to the city of "Eternal Rest"—Hsian, capital of Shansi province. We hereby command that the authorities en route providing supplies to the followers of the Court shall economise in regard to those coming in the rear and avoid all extravagance in doing so, and thereby wasting the public exchequer. The high provincial authorities are commanded to provide rice and money for the troops and we look to them to strive their best in preparing all things for the future; the more the better. The route to the future capital viâ the south-eastern provinces is an easier one than the others, hence supplies in money and rice should be sent by that route, being quicker, in order that the Court may not suffer from want.

From the North China Daily News of October 19th, 1900.

Enclosure No.2.

N.C. Daily News 19th Oct. 1900

Omit

PATHETIC ACCOUNT OF THE IMPERIAL FLIGHT.

The following is our translation of what the "Nippon" publishes as a copy of an account of the flight of the Imperial Court of China, penned by a high official of that country. There is something more than pathetic in the description given therein, when one remembers that the chief personage concerned is the ruler of four hundred millions of people and of one of the greatest nations on earth. Thus begins the interesting document:—

On the 15th of August and sharing the same carriage, the Emperor and the Empress Dowager escaped from Peking. On reaching Kwanshih, they were able to procure a camel on whose back a kind of sedan-chair had been fixed, and the Emperor was removed into it, accompanied by Baron Pien. At Hwailaihien, the local prefect presented a state-sedan for the Imperial use and at Suenhwahien four more sedans were secured. And thus the Emperor, the Empress Dowager and the Crown Prince were at length enabled to occupy each a separate seat. The Empress Dowager wore at the time a blue summer gown and her hair was uncombed. The Emperor's attire was a robe of black silk gauze for his upper garment and a pair of divided skirts. The Imperial refugees did not take with them any night dress; neither were they followed by any luggage; and for three nights after leaving the capital they were obliged to sleep on bare divans (or brick-beds warmed by a slow fire from below) with no coverings on and without changing their dresses. Nor were they able to get proper meals and they had to satisfy their hunger by sipping rice-gruel. On arriving at Hwailai and Suenwa prefectures, local officials came to offer their services and thenceforward the Imperial party was able to escape from the humiliating and distressing experiences they had come through.

None of the ladies of the harem or of the other court ladies joined the flight, while only a few eunuchs, princes of the blood and Manchu peers followed the party. Among the Princes in the suite were Princes Tuan, Ching, Na, and Shu, and Barons Lin and Shu, Kang Yi, Chao Shu-ch'iao, U Ting'ho, Wang Wen-siao, Kang Kao; among the peers and high officials of state, Prince Ching, Yung Lu and Ki Siu. These personages failed to start together. Besides the above the Imperial cortège was followed by one or two departmental chiefs, two officers of the Manchu army, one of the Han army, and something over a thousand troops and coolies of the Shanki, the Yunshan, and the Bannermen forces. No guards of honour were provided though General Ma at the head of another thousand of troops guarded the Imperial carriage. Many of the soldiers deserted as the procession slowly pushed forward, and the shops and houses on the route had closed their doors and their occupants had run away, making it extremely difficult for the Imperial refugees to obtain supplies of provisions.

Previous to the Imperial flight, on the 6th of August, Yü Lu had retreated to Yangtsun from Pehtsang. Subsequently meeting with another reverse at Tsaitsun, he committed suicide, by dispatching himself with a hand-lance. On the 8th, seeing that the Chan and the Chang forces had run away without fighting at Hosiwu, Li Ping-hêng too put an end to his life by swallowing poison: and the foreign troops marched into Tungchou. On the 10th an order was issued announcing the Imperial decision to remove the Court to a point in the west; but the departure was delayed owing to the lack of carriages and waggons equipped for the

purpose. Since the dawn of the 13th, the sound of incessant firing of artillery began to be heard outside the walls of the capital and on the morning of the 14th the roar of cannon came nearer the neighbourhood of my residence, and shells and bullets flew thick and fast. In the afternoon the firing grew hotter than ever and then all of a sudden a report was received to the effect that the Tientsin and the Sichangan gates had yielded to the enemy's attack, but I was unable to at once ascertain the truth of this report. I was then on duty at the office, but the passages to the Imperial quarters had already been barred and closed and I could not get inside. At 7 o'clock the following morning, sitting in a sedan-chair, I proceeded to the Forbidden Precincts only to find out that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager had left the palace at daybreak.

On the previous day, the 14th, I was called to the Imperial presence no fewer than five times, only Kang and Chao being in attendance on each occasion. The Empress Dowager said to us: "Only you three are here: the others have all gone to their own houses, deserting us two. You three will please follow the Imperial cortège. But you (addressing the writer of this account) are the oldest of the three and I have no heart to let you share the hardships of our flight—you may follow us later. But you Chao and Kang are both good equestrians and you may come with us." I replied that I would surely go with them. The Emperor then said that I should try to make ready to join them in their flight as quickly as possible. But the time of departure was not decided upon even until past midnight. It was therefore a great surprise to me to find them gone so early and so precipitately. My heart nearly broke at this sad turn of affairs.

(The rest of the account refers to the author's experience in his effort to catch up with the Imperial cortège until he overtook them at Hwailaihsien on the 17th August; but, as it is of no special interest, we omit it here.)—"Japan Times."

Enclosure No.3.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

The following belated edict, bearing date of issue the 12th September last, has come to hand, which bears the private seal of the Emperor: "In obedience to the commands of H.I.M., the Empress Dowager, Tze-hsi-tuan-yu, etc., we escorted her Majesty on a temporary journey to the West, and on leaving Peking we appointed a certain number of Princes and high Ministers to remain in the capital for the purpose of arranging matters on a substantial basis with the Representatives of the various Foreign Powers. We now hereby command our Tartar Generals, Viceroys, and Governors of the Empire to attend to their duties in the usual manner, preserve the peace amongst their subjects and prevent all attempts at disturbances in the country. Let there be no relaxation of diligence or energy on the part of the high provincial authorities in preserving the integrity of the territories placed in their charge, while in all matters relating to International intercourse they are to observe the treaties in relation to the observation of which we have repeatedly issued our decrees to them. Should there in any event be attempts made by local banditti to create mob riots and bloodshed with intention to rebel, we hereby permit all high provincial officials to suppress them immediately, in order to prevent these disturbances from affecting the stability of our International and Internal policy. We call upon our high officials to remember the heavy bounties they have always received at our Imperial hands and to deserve the confidence we have placed upon them by implicitly obeying these our commands."

Enclosure No.4.

Omit

IMPERIAL DECREE.

ISSUED EN ROUTE TO HSIAN.

4th October.

AN ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

When the Imperial cortège was proceeding on its way to our new capital, Hsian, and while passing through, this morning, the village of Yian, district of Kiashiu, Shansi province, a certain madman, named Kuo Têng-yuan, who styled himself a Boxer Chief, suddenly rushed upon the Imperial cortège with strange language and in strange attire (meaning thereby "with cries of vengeance and weapons on person"—Translator), thereby disturbing our line of progress (that is to say, there was an attempt at assassination, Translator). The said Kuo Têng-yuan was therefore summarily executed on the spot without trial. As for Ch'ên, magistrate of the said district of Kiashiu, who has been guilty of instigating and encouraging the Boxers, he is hereby forthwith cashiered and dismissed for ever from the public service.

Note:—In other words since the above named magistrate of Kiashiu, in Shansi, has been cashiered and dismissed for ever, for instigating and encouraging Boxers, question may well be asked what must therefore be the punishment due those who are so much higher in rank than he and who were more guilty of instigating and encouraging the Boxers at Peking and in Chihli? Furthermore, the summary decapitation of the would-be assassin of the Empress Dowager is very strange, as the Chinese law demands that the person guilty of "disturbing the line of progress of the Imperial cortège" should be handed over to the Minister presiding over the Board of Punishments for trial, and when found guilty of the misdemeanour he is merely bambooed 100 blows and exiled 3,000 li for three years. The summary decapitation of Kuo Têng-yuan without trial of any sort, must therefore contain in itself something very serious which later news will perhaps explain.—Translator.

Enclosure No.5.

Orig

Copy of telegram sent to the Department of State in cipher.

Nanking, October 10th, 1900.

SECSTATE,

Washington.

Tenth. I arrived Nanking eighth. Viceroy is adverse to again memoralizing Emperor return to Peking. Urges prior measure United States ask all Powers to unite demanding exemplary punishment guilty Princes and high officials. He telegraphed yesterday Li in the sense of the above. The restoration of peace and the return of the Emperor Peking will follow. The Emperor is afraid to do so while foreign troops occupy the capital. Thinks expedition Paoting-Fu and any other places will cause delay settlement. Heartily accepts declared policy United States. Asks that his name be not mentioned in advocating his views. Deeply impressed Viceroy's straightforward manner. Conger has been advised his views. Reach Hankow Monday.

Rockhill.

No.6

Enclosure No.6.

Memorandum prepared by Viceroy Liu K'un-yi.

Nanking, October 10th, 1900.

(Translation.)

The Viceroy respectfully requests the President of the United States and the Secretary of State to lend their assistance in negotiating for peace.

He requests the various nations to first open negotiations and withdraw the allied troops (from Peking), so that China may be able to clean up the Imperial palace in a proper manner for the return of the Emperor. This manner of dealing with the question insures security.

As to the subject of exterminating the Boxer clique (i.e., the Princes and high officials who encouraged and supported them), this is a matter which China must perform itself.

Furthermore he has to request that the allied troops be stopped from marching on and disturbing Pao-ting Fu and other places.

Enclosure No. 7.

Orig

IMPERIAL DECREES.

28th September.

(1) Ching Sing (Manchu) is appointed Governor of Kiangsi vice Sung Shou (Manchu) transferred to the Governorship of Kiangsu, and the Provincial Treasurer-ship of Honan vacated by the said Ching Sing is hereby given to Yen Ch'i (Manchu), Provincial Judge of the same province of Honan, the last-named post being hereby bestowed on Chung Pei, Chinese Bannerman.

(5) Hsiao Tsêng (Manchu) is also appointed Grain Taotai of Kiangsu vice Wu Ch'ung-hsi promoted Provincial Judge of Fukien.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

En route to Hsian; Houma, 10th October.

A MOST DANGEROUS MOVE.

Yü Yin-lin, Governor of Hupeh, is hereby transferred to the Governorship of Honan; his place at Wuchang to be taken by Yü Chang (Manchu), Governor of the said province of Honan.

Note by translator:—The sudden transference to Hupeh of the notorious Yü Chang, Governor of Honan, a brother of the late Yü Lu, the treacherous Viceroy of Chihli, has created quite a panic amongst the more liberal-minded officials of the Yangtze Valley, as it is generally considered that Yü Chang's appearance at Wuchang is part of a plan of the Empress Dowager and her party to break the compact made in June between the Yangtze Viceroys and Governors and the Foreign Consuls-General in Shanghai. We have already stated in these columns what intrigues were threatening Viceroy Liu at Nanking by the placing of more Manchu officials in his Liangkiang Viceroyalty; and the transference of another Manchu, Yü Chang, as Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's colleague in Hupeh province, confirms our views and will become a most serious menace to the peace of the Yangtze. The transference of Yü Yin-lin, the Reactionist Governor of Hupeh, to Honan, it appears, is considered a promotion for him in recognition of his massacre of the liberal-minded friends of the Kolao Hui in Wuchang and Hankow last August. The only fault found in Yü Yin-lin is his lack of energy in opposing the enlightened and friendly policy of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung. This is what has brought Yü-chang to Wuchang, thereby considerably strengthening the hands of the Reactionist Manchus in the Yangtze and making the proposed breaking of the Yangtze compact a certainty in the near future unless indeed Great Britain makes a decided move to prevent all such intrigues endangering the peace of these Central and Eastern provinces. It would be well if a plain intimation were at once made to the so-called Peace Plenipotentiaries, Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, that Great Britain will not tolerate the appointment of any such notoriously foreign-hating Manchus as Yü Chang and the other Manchus recently appointed into the Liangkiang provinces.

No.14.

Seen by the Secretary

DIPLOMATIC,
COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.
DEC 3 19
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file
DEC 3 1900

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 25th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Ack'd Dec. 8

Sir.

Our Consul at Chefoo reports to me that the Governor of Shan-tung, Yuan Shih-kai, has been displaying the utmost energy - attended with great success - in suppressing in his province the Boxers. As of possible interest I enclose some notes on his operations in the Pingtu district and of the last action between the provincial troops and the Boxers; it is thought this defeat completely crushed the latter in the Tsang-chou district on the Shan-tung-Chih-li frontier, one of their principal strongholds.

I ahve the honor to be, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

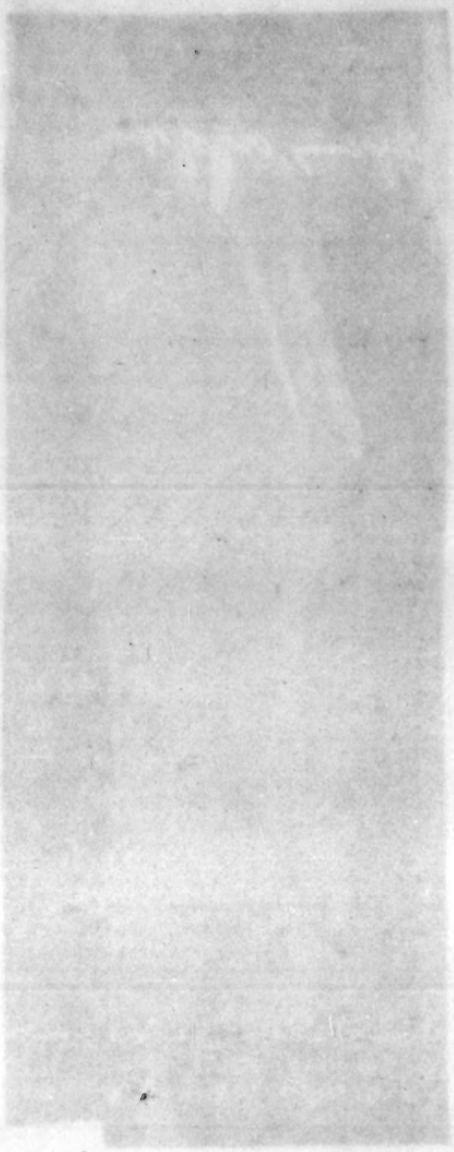
One enclosure.

GREAT DEFEAT OF BOXERS IN SHANTUNG.

The following detailed account of a battle which occurred on the 8th inst., at Tsangchou, Shantung-Chihli borders, ending in the utter defeat of the Boxers, has come to hand. It states that General Mei, commanding Governor Yuan Shih-kai's troops at Tsangchou and engaged in keeping the Northern Boxers from entering Shantung, has had no fewer than fourteen battles (including skirmishes) with the enemy since the beginning of September, during which the troops suffered defeat only twice, that is, in a couple of skirmishes, during which the Boxers outnumbered the troops five to one. All these fights occurred in the vicinity of Tsangchou, which is still held in force by Governor Yuan's troops, who have hitherto succeeded very well in preventing the entrance of all Boxers who have tried to fight a way into the province of Shantung. On the 9th instant, however, the Chief Boxer leader, a Tientsin man named Ch'ên, whose followers have the reputation of being the most ferocious and pitiless of their kind, concentrated his forces, numbering 5,000 men and joining them to the Shantung Boxers on the early morning of that day marched against General Mei's troops and offered battle in the plains below the city of Tsangchou. The Boxers combined numbered over 12,000, while General Mei's forces only numbered 8,000 of all arms. But the challenge was accepted and General Mei, after leaving a little over 2,000 men to hold the city and placing 1,500 men with artillery on the rising ground outside the city walls to cover his retreat should he be outnumbered by the enemy, marched out with nearly 4,000 to attack the enemy. The battle raged from 8 o'clock in morning to dusk, just before which, seeing that the right wing of the Boxers, who were strongly posted in the villages and dykes and forced the troops to attack them in the open, were suffering severely from a battery posted near by and had begun to waver, General Mei sent his 1,500 covering troops to attack them on the flank. The Boxers did not wait for these fresh troops, but were soon seen streaming to the north-west of the town into the marshes. This was the signal for a general advance and pursuit by the troops. The covering troops then made a détour and stopped the Boxers from getting into the marshes while the pursuing troops coming up the enemy were cut down almost to a man. This right wing happened to be entirely composed of Tientsin Boxers under Ch'ên who was fortunately captured. This man with some 300 desperadoes refused to retreat when he saw the battle was lost but held his ground in a strongly entrenched and walled hamlet. Here General Mei with 200 cavalry found him and a desperate fight ensued. The troopers dismounted and stormed the place and a couple of Maxims being brought up the whole band were slain without a single cry for quarter. Ch'ên's head was then brought back to Tsangchou in triumph and it now adorns the walls of that city. Nearly 6,000 Boxers were killed in this battle over 3,000 of whom were Tientsin men. General Mei was wounded, his losses being some 300 killed and twice the number wounded. The Shangtung Boxers belonged to those who went to Peking in May last, had been defeated and were now trying to get back to their homes to find the door shut against them by Governor Yuan: hence their persistency in attacking Tsangchou.

A CHINANFU TELEGRAM

has been received here reporting that the remnants of the Boxer forces who were badly defeated by General Mei at Tsangchou, on the 8th inst., have retreated towards the district of Yenshan, abandoning almost entirely their old haunts round about the vicinity of Tsangchou. A force of cavalry is now scouring the neighbourhood for any Boxers that may still remain, while General Mei with 4,000 men is now in pursuit towards Yenshan. It is stated that the Boxer influence at Tsangchou is now completely broken.



From the Shanghai Mercury of October 15th, 1900.

SITUATION IN SHANTUNG.

(From our Correspondent)

Tsinanfu, 8th October.

STEADILY IMPROVING.

Yuan, presumably, has now no secret orders to deal leniently with the good, patriotic people who have done so much to bring disaster upon their beloved country. If he has they did not apply to Pingtu district, where a

WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION

of Boxers has just taken place. There is scarcely a market town in that region where is not suspended the ghastly head of some wicked or deluded wretch. Over sixty are reported as beheaded. Among these, sad to say, are the heads of a number of mere boys. They are recognised as such by the red hairstrings still attached to their queus. It is said the soldiers were exceedingly loth to kill them, but the lads, in the unfathomable folly of their fanatical belief as to their own invulnerability, threw themselves so recklessly on the soldiers that there seemed to be no alternative.

MARVELLOUS INDEED

is the hold which this belief has taken upon the popular mind. Thousands, probably it would not be over-stating the matter to say millions, are influenced by it. Even where more or less is known of the fate of the Chihli Boxers, all evidence as to Boxer mortality is pushed aside by the remark, "They who died were not true Boxers." Village upon village in Central Shantung is still unconvinced that foreign bullets can pierce a genuine Boxer.

No.15.

Seen by the Secretary

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 3 1900
COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA.
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file.
DEC 3 1900

Shanghai, China, October 25th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Ack'd Dec. 5

Sir.-

The Reform Party in China is availing itself of the present disturbed state of the Empire to forward its ends which seem now to be nothing less, if the enclosed statements (Enclosures 1 and 2) can be relied upon, than the overthrow of the present dynasty. The rebellion now in progress in the province of Kuan-tung may partly be its work.

The connection of this party, or at least of many of its members, with the Ko-lao hui, a well known secret revolutionary society, seems to have been established by the Viceroys at Nanking and Wu-chang; at all events large numbers of the so-called reformers have recently been executed in those cities and elsewhere. (Enclosure 3).

The revolutionary outbreak in Kuang-tung is taking sudden and great importance and it seems difficult in the general disturbed condition of the Empire for the authorities to be able to raise the necessary forces to promptly cope with it. The object or objects of the rebels is still ill defined, some are anti-foreign, some are anti-dynastic, many probably seeking for plunder. The enclosed (Enclosure 4) editorial from a recent issue of a leading Shanghai paper may prove of interest, though we may not accept the writer's conclusions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

Four enclosures.

Enclosure No 1.

DEMANDS FORMULATED BY REFORMERS.

To the Editor of the
"North-China Daily News."

Sir,—Will you kindly publish the following for the good of China?

Owing to internal dissensions, treachery and mismanagement, the Chinese Reform Party has utterly failed so far in contending against the tremendous odds opposed to them, but this defeat can only be temporary, for progress and truth will always triumph in the end, and the blood of the martyrs, that has recently been shed, cannot but prove a consecration that will inaugurate a new era of enlightenment for this great Empire.

At the present time, when all sorts of solutions are offered for the settlement of the so-called Chinese problem, it might be well to know how the Chinese people themselves, at least the enlightened portion of them, regard the present situation; and it is this consideration that induces me to send you the following manifesto, which was adopted by the Reform Party at the beginning of the present crisis. The solution embodied therein is, we believe, the only one compatible with justice, freedom from any international complications, and the prevention of any recurrence of the troubles; and it is to be sincerely desired that the Allied Powers, in the final settlement, will take cognisance of the higher aspirations of the Chinese people, represented in the person of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Kuang Hsü, and the enlightened portion of the Chinese people, and not crush the same by an arbitrary exercise of their power, for it should be borne in mind that the present crisis is not so much a racial or religious struggle, for the Chinese have suffered as much as the foreigners from these sources, it is rather a deadly duel of principles between the old and new, between darkness and light, between progress and reaction, between corruption and justice, between oppression and liberty.

I am, etc.,

A Reformer.

4th October.

The following is the manifesto referred to:—

We, the undersigned, representatives of the people of China and members of the Reform Party, in view of the inevitable collapse of the Ta Tsing dynasty and the grave situation into which its mad career and insane folly have plunged the Chinese nation, have met this day in convention and, as a result of our deliberations, do hereby declare to the world:

That the Chinese nation, falling back on the universal doctrine that the people are the source of political power, and the voice of the people is the voice of God, do hereby no longer recognise the Manchu Government as a political organisation fit to rule over China.

It has signally failed to protect the persons and property of the people in proportion to the support they have given; on the contrary, it has systematically robbed them of their substance, till at length the whole country is filled with poverty and want, distress and discontent.

It has utterly failed to preserve the territorial integrity of China, and consequently laid itself open to foreign aggression, insult, and invasion.

Its policy, both domestic and foreign, has been of a repressive and reactionary character. The object-lessons of repeated conflicts with Foreign Powers have had no appreciable effect upon its unmitigated conceit and wilful ignorance. In its relations and intercourse with the outside world, it invariably manifested a studied purpose to shut out all light and truth from the dark situation in which China was placed, hence the "laissez faire" policy by which she has been sedulously kept behind the times and given no chance to catch the animating and irrepressible spirit of modern ideas and progress.

When we look into the inwardness of its administrations, we find that it is rickety and rotten to the core. Every branch and department of the government, inside and outside of Peking, is honey-combed with corruption. In short, the whole political fabric presents to the world a gigantic tissue of glaring falsehood unworthy of being propped up by any enlightened Power for consideration of commercial or political expediency.

Therefore be it

(1) Resolved, that, since the Almighty God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the Earth, has given to the Chinese people this magnificent country as its peculiar heritage, we henceforth and for ever intend to make it a heritage worthy of our Benefactor; that it is our bounden duty to make a new China of the old; to fill the land with happiness instead of misery; and to make it a blessing to the Chinese nation in particular, and the world in general.

(2) Resolved, that it is our firm conviction that the simplest solution of the present complicated problem is for the Allied Powers to depose and banish the Usurper and her crew of servile bigots and reactionaries, and to reinstate the Emperor Kuang Hsü, who stood as the exponent and representative of Reform. This resumption will at once restore public confidence, allay popular discontent, and remove a possible cause of international complications.

(3) Resolved, that, in the event of Kuang Hsü no longer living, it is our purpose to organise a provisional government and elect a temporary Chairman, till the best man for Emperor be found, when he will be permanently seated on the throne of China.

(4) Resolved, that the new Government of China shall be a constitutional monarchy, whose fundamental principle shall be the Magna Charta and the unwritten constitution of the British Government. In the organisation and administration of this constitutional Empire, we would request the wise men of the West to come, with the special sanction of their respective Governments, to help us with their counsel and experience.

(5) Resolved, that we propose to constitute a constitutional Empire, which in letter and in spirit, in legislation and in administration, in theory and in practice, shall be a model polity, worthy of the creation of the highest intelligence and enlightenment of the Twentieth Century.

(6) Resolved, that, availing ourselves of the experience, light and wisdom of the past twenty centuries, it shall be our first duty to educate the people to the new order of things; to study their wants; to protect their persons and property; to abolish all social and political evils; to establish a sound fiscal policy; to regulate the finances; to determine upon the system of national banks; to establish a universal system of graded schools; to improve and stimulate agriculture; to encourage and facilitate trade; and to throw wide open the whole of China to foreign trade on a footing of equality.

(7) Resolved, that, in order to maintain the public peace and to give protection and security to domestic and foreign commerce, the army and navy be organised on the most modern footing without delay. For this purpose military and naval schools shall be established for the training of officers.

(8) Resolved, that the right of habeas corpus and trial by jury in all courts of justice be available by every subject of the Empire, and that before them every man shall stand on an equal footing.

(9) Resolved, that every subject of the new Government shall be entitled to enjoy freedom of conscience and faith, of private judgment, and speech. Neither outside dictation, nor ecclesiastical supremacy of any kind, shall be allowed to interfere with, or intervene between, the civil authorities and the exercise of the rights of the people.

(10) Resolved, that the new constitutional Empire, in assuming the Government of the Empire, shall assume all the responsibilities and obligations towards foreign Powers contracted by the old régime, and shall faithfully discharge the National Debt and fulfil all treaty obligations. And, finally, that every effort shall be made to make every branch and department of the new Government and its administration honest and pure, so as to realise the great political doctrine of Government of the people, by the people, for the people.

Enclosure No 2.

The "Hongkong Daily Press" of the 11th inst. prints the following manifesto :—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Kuai Shin District, Kuangtung,
6th October, 1900.

SIR,—We are not "Boxers." We are members of that Great Political Society of Masons, commonly known as Triads (義興會 or 三合會, or 天地會) when senior and junior leaders at home and abroad have sworn to oust barbarous Manchu usurpers from the throne of our Fatherland and reinstate a Chinese ruler.

We number countless millions, and our able brethren in America, the Sandwich Islands, Australia, the Straits Settlements, Siam, Indo-China, the Dutch Archipelago etc., are only waiting for the "Grand Signal."

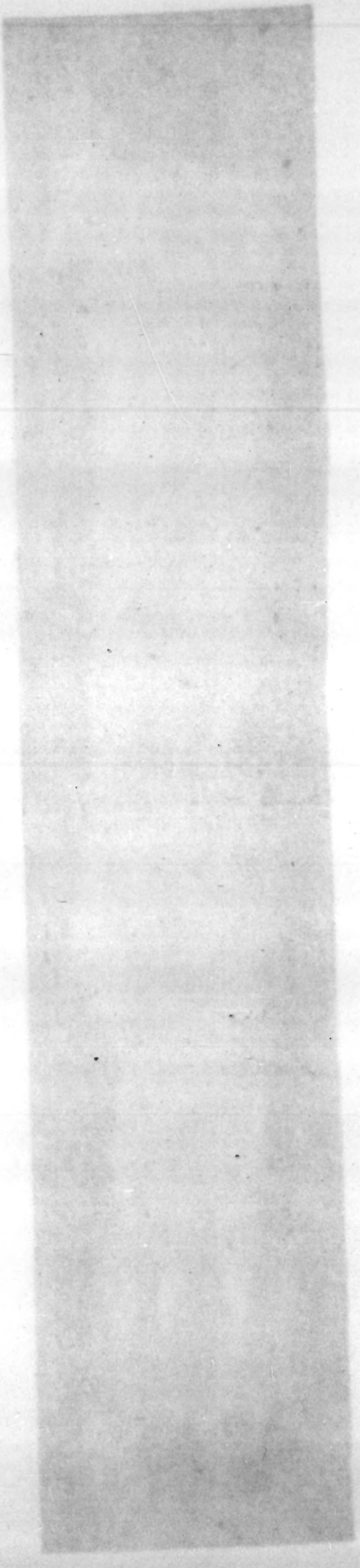
We are reformers. After we have accomplished our work, we will institute benefical reforms and throw the country open to the trade of the World. We cannot prevent bloodshed, as Heaven wills that all great political and national changes shall be dearly purchased.

History will repeat itself, and in working to accomplish what our patriotic and illustrious predecessors swore to accomplish nearly three hundred years ago, we trust Great Britain, the United States and Japan will observe strict neutrality, and if necessary afford us their friendly advice and support.

In 1862 Great Britain frustrated our aims by lending the services of General Gordon to the Manchu Government. The great and chivalrous General Gordon bitterly regretted his connection with the barbarous and ungrateful Manchus on the termination of the struggle, and he had many sympathisers amongst the great politicians of his country. General Gordon even longed to shoot the base traitor Li Hung-chang.

We sincerely hope and pray that this mistake will not be repeated.—Respectfully soliciting your valuable support, yours, etc.

PIRAMID.

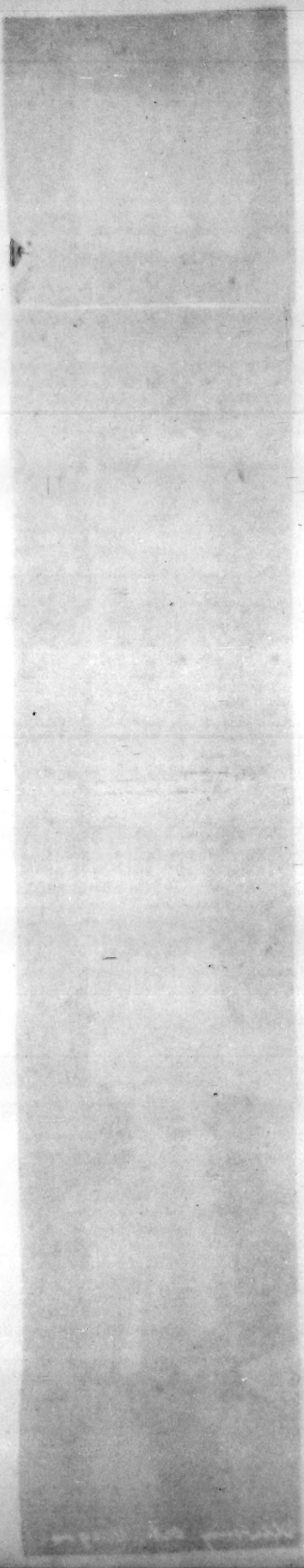


From the Shanghai Mercury of October 11,1900.

Enclosure No 3

Chang Chihtung's crusade against Kang Yuwei and the other leaders of the Reform movement, together with all members of secret societies, continues with unabated vigour; his zeal in this line being equal to that of Yuan Shihkai in the extermination of the Boxers. Almost every day we read of captures and executions somewhere within his jurisdiction. Yesterday's issue of the "Shen Pao" tells of three men who went laughing and singing to their death to prove how little they feared it. Their dissevered heads were exhibited as a warning to like offenders.

A recent number of the same paper contains a long proclamation put out jointly by Viceroy Chang and Governor Yu of Hupeh. It gives a detailed account of the capture and execution of Tan Ts'aich'ang and his followers, together with the facts alleged to have been brought to light by the documents and other articles found upon their persons and in their hiding places. Many of these circumstances are already known to our readers, but we believe that some of them are here made public for the first time. If the Viceroy's representations are to be credited, there is a society calling itself the Tzu li, or Independent Society, and possessing numerous adherents all along the river and the sea-coast. Its head-quarters are at Shanghai and there was an important branch establishment at Hankow. It is the members of this society who are the disseminators of the Fu-yu Piao, or Wealth Certificates, which have been so much discussed. Having leagued themselves with the Ko-lao Hui, they had fixed upon a day for a general uprising in Hankow, Wuchow and Hanyang, an enterprise abruptly terminated by the arrest and execution of Tan Ts'ai-ch'ang and some twenty other members of the society. At Tan's residence were found concealed arms and ammunition, false official seals, orders and proclamations, a large number of the above mentioned certificates, a registry containing the names of the members, and also account books showing expenditures for arms, regular running expenses, and allowances for the employment of spies whom they have scattered about in every large city, in all the great business houses and in the camps of the soldiers. Letters were also found from branch establishments everywhere, and the rules and regulations of the society written in characters (presumably English). At about the same time Ts'u Hots'ing, a Kolao Hui leader, and several others were apprehended, and these under examination testified to the connection between the two societies. After Tan's execution another leader, Tsiang Kwohtsai, was seized; and in his possession were found, together with certificates, yellow flags, and passwords of the society, proclamations from Kang Yuwei and Liang Chichao, the real heads of the organization. His documents represented Kang as the chief, Liang as his assistant, and Tan Ts'aich'ang as head of the institution in Shanghai. They also implicated Yungwing. The rebels captured in Hunan testified to practically the same thing, but added that Tan was head of the Commissary Department and that Sun Wen, (evidently the man mentioned as a leader of the Kwangtung insurrection), had



[illegible] to arrange a plan of co-operation with the Great Knife Society. Representations from Li Hung-chang, Liu Kun-yi, and the Governors of Nganhui and Hunan, all agree substantially with the above disclosures, and the Viceroy regards the accumulation of evidence as convincing. The letters found urge the members to take advantage of the crisis in the North and to stir up the discontented spirits everywhere. Their accounts show a capital in hand of $15,000, about $10,000 having been already expended. More than 20,000 certificates have been issued in the provinces of Hupeh and Hunan. Several days after the affair had leaked out a courier was captured bringing a letter to the Hankow head-quarters. This letter spoke of an independent nation to be established by the union of the provinces of the South and East. It contained a set of regulations, in Chinese and English, and among them was an order not to recognize the Manchu Dynasty. The inscriptions on the seals were, "Hankow Branch of the National Assembly of China," and "Headquarters of the National Assembly of China for the Direction of the Southern Provinces," together with several others. Upon the person of Tan Tsai-chang were found directions to burn all the yamens, rifle the Treasury, and after three days of pillage to lay aside the sword and pacify the people. Permission was also given to pillage in passing from one city to another. It is stated that Tan Tsai-chang made no attempt to deny the charges made, and that the rebellious language which he used with reference to the Imperial Court was "Enough to make one's hair stand on end."

What follows is a long exhortation on the part of the Viceroy, warning his people against any connection with these societies and promising pardon to such members as shall voluntarily come forward and surrender their certificates. He lays great stress upon the fact that Tan and his followers were arrested within the limits of the foreign settlement and with the permission of the English Consul, and that all the Consuls have since given their consent to the arrest of any such men who may be found hiding within their borders. Had the evidence against them not been considered authoritative he believes that such consent would never have been given.

We have heard friends of the unfortunate Tan Tsai-chang assert that he died nobly, and that no word which could incriminate any one else passed his lips. It will be noted that the Viceroy's own account does not contradict this statement. Others are quoted as testifying against the Reformers and the documents found seriously implicate them; but even the well known methods of Chinese criminal courts seem to have failed in daunting Tan's spirit or in wringing from his lips any expression of disloyalty to his friends.

It may be unknown to many that a copy of the rules of this society for the organization and conduct of its armies was recently published in one of the native papers. If those rules were authentic the Viceroy's representations do them an injustice. Pillage and unnecessary slaughter were strictly forbidden, and special regulations were laid down for the protection of foreign life and property.

We regard the above as of special interest when considered in connection with recent events in Kuangtung.

[illegible]

The
North-China Daily News.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, 17TH OCTOBER, 1900.

THE TURBULENT SOUTH.

ONCE more the people of the Canton province are on the warpath. How many times in Chinese history the restless provincials have fought the government and each other no one can say, and what it is that has stirred them to rebel once more seems as yet matter of controversy. Probably the motives are as mixed as the people. Kuangtung is blessed with a very considerable admixture of Hakkas, the almost mysterious "strangers" who came from the northern provinces as long ago as the times of the Ts'in Dynasty, some 250 years before Christ, and reached the South only after suffering cruel persecutions in the provinces en route. Hence it is that to this day, although there are Hakka districts in the plains, a great many still live amongst the hills where their forefathers found refuge centuries ago.

They are an interesting people, having a dialect which bridges the gulf between Cantonese and Mandarin. Their customs differ considerably from those of the surrounding provincials. Their head dress is not the same, their clothing is different, most of their ornaments are unlike those of the Cantonese, and the women do not bind their feet, a fact which is said to be accounted for by their having emigrated from their northern home before that custom had come into force. Altogether it is reckoned that the Hakkas can count some four millions in the province of Kuangtung alone, but there are others in Fukien, Kiangsi, etc. It is nearly forty years ago now that there was a terrible strife lasting over two years between these people and the Puntis or natives of the Canton province. No less than 150,000 people, some say more, lost their lives in this internecine strife. Finally after more than ordinarily vigorous action the authorities got the better of the outbreak, and deported considerable numbers of the Hakkas to neighbouring provinces and Hainan. As might be expected from his history, the Hakka is pugnaciously inclined. It was he who supplied the leader and his lieutenants in the Taiping rebellion. The nucleus of the vast horde which for years dominated all China south of the Yangtze was composed of Hakkas. They supplied much of the fighting spirit, and their example made such soldiers of the rest that no Imperialist troops could be brought to face the levies of the Wangs on even terms. Little behind them in turbulence are certain classes of the real Cantonese. As little in common is there between these and the gentle law-abiding hind of the Kiangsu flats as between the Montenegrin mountaineer and the native of Holland. Fighting men by nature, fearless, tricky, cruel, and tenacious, the Southern peoples are foes to be respected. They sometimes betray their nature, no other course being open to them in Hongkong, by going to law.

Such are the people now up in arms in the South. What their object may be is still matter for conjecture. Quot homines tot sententiæ may possibly be the nearest approach it is as yet possible to make as to their desires. Some are said to be for, others against foreigners. It seems certain that there is no parallel between the rising in the South and the Boxer outbreak up North. The latter was stimulated if not originated by the highest authorities, whereas our telegrams appear to prove that instead of being leaders the mandarins are victims in Kuangtung. The whole delta of the Si Kiang appears to be in a ferment, disturbances having already occurred close to the border of our Kowloon extension in the one side and as far as Wuchou up stream on the other.

It has been an open secret for a long time that the malcontents not only in Kuangtung but in other provinces have gradually been arming, and it is quite possible in view of the difficulty of the country, the character of the people and the nature of the task, that the army of 100,000 men said to have been asked for by General Su is none too great. How such a force is to be raised, sent, fed, and manœuvred is a problem which will most probably be found insoluble. It would be difficult at any time. With an allied Army in Peking, with punitive expeditions scouring the northern provinces, with Manchuria overrun by the Russians, and Shanghai garrisoned by a cosmopolitan force, the Court in flight and the mandarins in a state bordering on collapse, it is impossible to see how China can hope to cope with any such formidable rising as that near Canton threatens to be.

In the days of the Taipings we were fighting both for and against the Chinese Government at one and the same time, and such is the magic influence of "interests" that it would not be surprising to see the Chinese Government suggesting a repetition of the same strange phenomenon. Those who remember the history of affairs forty years ago have been very much afraid that a rebellion would be drawn across the scent to divert the Allies from hunting out those guilty of the outrages of this year in China. But as long as the leaders of the rebellion in the South continue to respect foreigners and foreign property, and avoid the blasphemous orgie of rapine and massacre into which the Taiping rebellion degenerated, it is to be hoped that we shall not be induced, as we were forty years ago, to assist the Government in repressing it, and thus help to fix the corrupt yoke of the Manchus, whose misgovernment is the cause of these risings, on the neck of China for another term of years. The Allies should open negotiations with the leaders of the rebellion, while it is in its inception and before it gets out of hand, for if its object is really to eject the Manchus and replace Kuang Hsü on the throne with a reforming Chinese Cabinet, we must all be in sympathy with it. But if it is allowed to get out of hand and become such a scourge of humanity as the Taiping rebellion became, we shall be obliged to endeavour to suppress it, excellent as its original intention may be, and disastrous to ourselves as the result would be.

Enclosure
No. 4

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 29 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Copy

Confirm Dict as Oct 30

From Peking.

October 25, 1900.

Received via Taku, 11.55 PM

October 26, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-five. Li says reported intention to remove Yangtze Viceroys is not true.

C O N G E R

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 9.19 AM 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Code Testing.

October 25, 1905.

Received via Tuck, 11.55 PM

October 25, 1905.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-five. If copy requested instruction to remove

Tsegtse Tlsereya is not true.

CONSUL

Received by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 8.10 AM

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
File.
NOV 21 1900

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
2 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 25th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.

I have the honor to confirm the following cablegram sent you in cipher this date.-

"Secstate,

Washington.

Twenty-fifth. Yang-tze Viceroys power is being rapidly undermined anti-foreign appointments their Provinces; their own removal is not impossible. They are the only high officials sincerely desireus of peace, and their retention present offices absolutely essential. The Emperor should be informed we must insisi on it and will hold all anti-foreign appointments Yang-tze provinces unfriendly acts. Have telegraphed the above to the Minister. Rockhill"

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No. 430

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 15 1900
BUREAU.

Secretary of State.
DEC 15 1900

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
13 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

October 26th, 1900.

Hoke
Dec. 18

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of the 24th instant. Removal of Yangtze Viceroys by the Imperial Government. Protest filed with Plenipotentiaries.

No. 430

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 26th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your cipher telegram of the 24th instant, ########## concerning the probable removal of Viceroy Liu Kung Yi and Chang Chi Tung .

I at once presented the matter to Li Hung Chang telling him that the removal of these two men, who had by their courage and intelligence saved the Yangtze Valley from the fate which has overtaken this part of the Empire, would be most disastrous at this time. He replied that there was no truth in the report, and that their removal would not take place . But to-day I have received a telegram from Mr. Rockhill repeating the rumor and adding that the power of the Viceroys was being undermined by the appointment of reactionary officials, and so I have filed a formal written protest with Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang and requested that it be telegraphed to the Emperor.

The

The removal of these men, or any interference with their good work, would be a violation of the "bona fides" of the Imperial Government in its alledged efforts to restore order, punish the responsible criminals and make just and equitable settlement of the existing troubles, and would make an early adjustment by negotiations practically impossible.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. A. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED (CIPHER)

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 24, 1900.

CONGER,

PEKING.

WILCOX REPORTS INTENTION EMPEROR TO REMOVE BOTHYANGTZE VICEROYS. CONSULT COLLEAGUES AND IF SUCH ACTION PROBABLE PROTEST ENERGETICALLY.

HAY.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Secretary of State.
NOV 13 1900

From Peking.

October 26, 1900.

Received via Taku, 12.35 AM
October 27, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-six. As Article I in treaty, diplomatic corps unanimously agreed to demand, as an ultimatum, death of the nine persons named in the decree mentioned in my telegram of October third, adding Tung Fu Hsiang and Yu Hsien and naming others for commensurate punishment when discovered. Do you approve? I advise it. I have protested against removal Yangtze Viceroys or the appointment of reactionary officials.

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 9.43 AM, 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

(SENT TO) DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 27, 1930.

October 27, 1930.

Received via Tacna, 11:33 PM

CHILE.

October 27, 1930.

PERU.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-six. As Article I in Treaty, diplomatic corps unanimously agreed to decline, as on withdrawal, death of the nine persons named in the decree mentioned in my telegram of October thirty, adding Tacna Pa Malang and Ta Chaina and hoping others for commemorate pualdoment when discovered. Do you approve? I advise it. I have protested against removal Vaupres Viceroys or the appointment of secretary officials.

TARNER.

Received by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 9.45 PM

DIPLOMATIC,
OCT 29 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Shanghai

October 27, 1900.

Received 9.24 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-seven. Have reliable information to the effect that Yu Hsien committed suicide twenty-second.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 27, 10. AM. *190* , *M.*

No.16.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 3 1900
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
2 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Shanghai, China, October 27th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

To Secy of War 15 Dec.
" Secy
Ack'd. 17 Dec.

Sir.-

Considering the impossibility of my visiting within a reasonable space of time all the treaty ports in China to there personally inquire into the effect of the present disturbances in the North on local conditions, I requested, through the Consul general here, our Consuls to report to me regarding the situation in their respective consular districts.

I now have the honor to transmit to you the various reports received. The reports of our Consuls at Tientsin and Niuchuang have not yet come to hand but will be forwarded to you as soon as received.

These reports may be briefly summarized as follows.-
CHEFOO. (Enclosure 1.) The Governor of Shantung has done and is still doing all in his power to protect foreign life and property. No American citizens have been killed or injured, but a considerable amount of property has been lost. On the subject of the steps being taken by the Governor of this province to suppress the Boxer movement and restore order I refer you to my despatch No.14 of the 25th instant.
CHIN-KIANG. (Enclosure 2.) The Consul is now stationed at Nanking so as to be in direct communication with the Viceroy, Liu K'un-yi. He reports that so far as he knows no American citizens have been injured in their persons or property in this Consular district since the so-called Boxer movement began. The Chinese about Nanking, he adds, seem to be quiet and well disposed, "but the officials say it is because

the hand of power is on them every minute. (See also my No. 13 of the 25th instant.)

HANKOW. (Enclosure 3.) "The Viceroy (Chang Chih-tung)has acted through all this trouble in a friendly manner to foreigners. We have called on him," the Consul says," a number of times for gunboats and escorts, and they have been furnished promptly every time. He deserves the grateful thanks of all foreigners in this district." All but one of the two hundred American missionaries in this consular district have reached the coast without serious injury. One, Mr. D.W. Crofts, still remains unaccounted for, but he is probably safe. The Consul believes that the loss of property is, up to the present, comparatively slight. (See also my No. 13.)

FOOCHOW. (Enclosure 4.) The agreement made by the Viceroy of the Min-chê provinces (Fu-kien and Che-chiang) and the Consuls at Foochow on July 15 last, has been faithfully carried out up to the present time, except in some remote districts, especially at Shao-wu; but even in that case the high officials took immediate action and did all in their power to restore order there. The Consul declares that he cannot speak too highly of the extreme measures adopted by the high officials of this province to insure protection and preserve the peace."

AMOY. (Enclosure 5.) The Consul reports that there has been no trouble within the jurisdiction of the Amoy Taotai in which are some hundreds of missionary stations and many thousands of native christians. The Consul calls especial attention attention to the Taotai's excellent management. In the northern and western part of the province, which comes under the Chang Chap Taotai, many chapels have been looted and native converts assaulted, but on strong representations to the Viceroy, the riots ended -though no guilty persons have been punished.

CANTON. (Enclosure 6.) The Consul reports that no Americans have either lost their lives or been maltreated in his dis-

trict. The Acting Viceroy has " at all times evidenced his desire to do all in his power to meet my views,and to have justice impartially administered. He is handicapped by many anti-foreign subordinates,civil and military,who make false reports to him concerning their pretended investigations of complaints of various kinds. At times I have almost felt that he was afraid to exercise his authority as strictly as circumstances demanded." No reports have reached the Consul from the provinces of Kuang-hsi et Yünnan of uprisings,riotous disturbances or looting of any account. According to the claims lodged with him the losses of American citizens amount to about ten thousand dollars,U.S.gold. Since the date of Mr.McWade's report,September 22nd,a serious rebellion has broken out. I am advised by the Consul that over one hundred thousand dollars (U.S.gold) worth of American property has been destroyed since the date of his first despatch to me. On the subject of this new outbreak see my despatch No.15 of the 25th instant.

In the regrettable absence of our Consul from his post at Chun-king (Ssŭ-ch'uan) I am unable to give an official report on the condition of affairs in western China. I have however seen Mr.Stevenson,the Secretary of the Chinese Inland Mission who is stationed here,and have asked him concerning it. He has kindly informed me that in the provinces of Kan-su,Ssu-ch'uan,Yunnan,Kuei-chan and Shen-hsi,none of which were covered by the reports of our Consuls - except Yunnan,he has recent reliable news that no foreigners have suffered in person or property. The officials,high and low,in all these provinces have displayed, he said, a wonderful amount of energy and their conduct has been above reproach. This is another proof,if such were needed,demonstrating the correctness of the opinion held by our government that Chinese officials can,whenever they honestly endeavor to do so,pre-

serve order in the districts or provinces under their control.

I am informed, under date of the 22nd instant, by the Agent of the American Bible Society here that the number of Americans massacred since the present troubles began is sixty-six, and there are nine other missionaries not accounted for but who are supposed to be en route for Siberia.

I have also the honor to transmit to you herewith a letter addressed to me by the leading American firms in China bearing on the effect of the present disturbances on American trade in China; also a letter on the present condition of native banks in Shanghai.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

Unietd States Commissioner.

Eight enclosures.

Special. Enclosure No 7.

rec'd Oct. 23 1900

Consulate of the United States.

Chefoo, China, September 25th, 1900.

Honorable W.W.Rockhill,

Commissioner to China,

Sir:-

On the 17th instant I received from the Consul General a copy of your despatch of the 7th instant to him, in which you request the Consuls in China to report to you regarding the situation in their respective districts.

In compliance with that instruction I have the honor to report as follows:-

The present uprising had its inception in this District, the Province of Shantung. Shantung, although ruled by a Governor, is amenable directly to the Throne, that is the Governor communicates direct and not through a Viceroy. The Governors of two other Provinces have the same privilege, Honan and Shansi, thus Chihli, with its Governor General (Viceroy), and no Governor, Honan, Shansi, and Shantung communicate directly with the Throne without the intervention of other Officials; it is thus seen that the control of practically all China north of the Yangtze rests with four men. This is

important as bearing upon the present situation.

The Province of Shantung is naturally one of the poorest of the eighteen,it suffers periodically from the overflow of the Yellow River,"China's Sorrow"

The Province was on the whole peaceful,the people industrious,and never anti-foreign until within recent years.

The first notable anti-foreign act occurred under the Governorship of Li Ping-heng,who was noted for his hatred of all things foreign. When he assumed office,the province was unusually quiet,the natives were eager for Western knowledge and not averse to the use of foreign inventions, and conditions were rapidly developing a large field for the introduction of the knowledge,merchandise and inventions of the Outer World,when all this was suddenly checked by this Anti-foreign Governor Li Ping-heng issuing proclamations ordering the populace to beware of the Missionaries, their schools and teachings,and to revert to the old way as the better one,even advocating bows and arrows in preference to guns.In this proclamation,when speaking of foreigners he deliberately used the Character "I". This had the desired effect;the loafers,brigands and anti-foreign officials immediately took the cue,robberies became rife,two German priests

were killed resulting in the seizure by Germany of Kyao-chow,rapidly succeeded by the leasing of Port Arthur by Russia (practically all Manchuria) and Weihaiwei by Great Britain,(all were in my Consular District).

The German Government demanded among other things that this notorious Li Ping-heng be cashiered,never to hold office again,so far as I know no such Edict was issued,although it is true that Li was removed and retired to a Monastery near Peking,where it is known he was in constant touch with the Empress Dowager.

Chang Ju-mei succeeded Li Ping-heng,and an era of good feeling was again restored. It is true that sporadic out-breaks marred the general peace at first,but under Chang's beneficent rule order was restored and the utmost harmony prevailed.Governor Chang Ju-mei invited American Missionar-ies to meet him,he furnished a house on foreign lines,advo-cated the opening of steam navigation inland,undertook a technical school,tried to get an Amerivan on a large salary to teach the young men of Chinan everything foreign,offered rewards for improvements,in fact was as pro-foreign as his predecessor was anti-foreign,and during his tenure it must

be remembered that the worst flood known for years happened, yet all was quiet,like a bolt from the blue came the "coup", Chang was impeached and dismissed from Office on the charge of embezzlement,he had subscribed heavily to the flood sufferers,and was known to be honest,neverthless he was dismissed and Yu-hsien appointed.All over the Empire the most bitter anti-foreign officials were installed in the posts of the friendly officials,riots began. Yu-hsien came to us with a most unfavorable record,yet there was no hope so long as the Empress Dowager reigned. It was only a question of time,and from September 1898 to the present day,I have sent to the Department warnings of the impending storm,(and every phase of this and what follows is on record). Yu began at once to destroy everything connected with foreigners,he secretly assisted all evil-doers,he outdid Li in his hatred of us.In the Fall of 1899 a reign of terror began near the German zone Kyaochow,he replaced every friendly official by one of his own,it was impossible to get justice. Those officials who did their duty or showed foreigners sympathy were dismissed,and those who secretly or openly aided the outlaws were honored by decrees from the Throne.

The troubles in the S.W.involved the Germans until they took a firm stand and partially restored order,then there was a lull for a short while. The scene changed to the extreme N.W. He (Yu) caused the "I-Ho-Chuan" or "Righteous Harmony Fists" to be organized,now known as the "Boxers",or "Patriots". They began their work in the N.W.part of this province,a section that had been taken from my control,on the urgent request of the American Board, who are stationed there,although I warned the Department

and Minister that such a step was highly dangerous,however I could do nothing,at the same time a similar organization was coming into existence in the South western and Middle of the Province known as the Ta Tao Hwei,or "Great Knife Society";both organizations received both secret and open encouragement from Yu-hsien. The Ta tao hwei was more in evidence in the jurisdiction of the Taotai of Chefoo,who used strong measures for their suppression,apparently. Late in the Fall of '99 the Boxers in the N.W.spread involving the interests of the Presbyterian Mission who worked in pretty much the same field as the American Board,but unlike the American Board are under my jurisdiction,therefore I was called in,and having followed the movements of the Boxers against the Catholics and American Board,(yet unable to act,see my No.241 of Februery 28th)when my aid was called I started to have them crushed,but the organization was too powerful. Rev.Brooks was murdered,Yu-hsien was transferred to Shansi (with orders to prepare his Yamen for a refuge),not degraded as I believe the British Minister demanded. In the meanwhile Li Ping-heng was on a tour of the Yangtze Valley,having been taken from retirement and given a position much higher than he ever held before. His Mission was well known to be bitterly hostile to foreign

interests.Events now following so rapidly that no one who lived in China could fail to see what it meant. On the "Removal" of Yu-hsien,Yuan Shi-kai,who had been sent with his foreign drilled soldiers to put down the Boxers in the N.W. was made Acting Governor and started in such a reign of terror amongst the Boxers that he was confirmed in his appointment,and ordered not to punish any more Boxers or Patriots.His hands were tied as Governor,when he was free as General. At the same time the Empress rewarded Yuan for his treachery to his Emperor. Yuan was Minister Resident in Korea and the cause of the China-Japan War.Jung-lu,the Viceroy of Chihli was his patron,the Emperor gave him the Green sword with which to remove the Viceroy,and he was then to return to Peking to assist the Emperor in"suppressing" the Dowager and begin an era of reform,instead however,he betrayed the Emperor to Jung-lu who warned his Aunt the Empress and she promptly suppressed the Emperor and began a reign of terror and anarchy. The Viceroy of Chihli,the Governor of Shantung,Yu-hsien,and the High Commissioner Li Ping-heng were all at work secretly preparing for War against the World.But,as the Emperor suspected Yuan when ordering him to begin the era of reform,so in turn the Empress suspected him when she began the era of anarchy,

and kept him near her and under her eye. Yuan Shi-kai does not love the foreigners (outspoken against Germans and Catholics),but he is the shrewdest man today holding office in North China.He knows China's weakness and instead joining openly in this War,he sent a part of his troops to Tientsin to fight with the Boxers against foreigners,keeping the larger number in Shantung to fight against the Boxers and protect the Foreigners. After the relief of Tientsin he became more and more pro-foreign (and is a bitter enemy of Yu-hsien) and so far as I know has done everything possible to protect foreign life and property. His Yamen is full of anti-foreign Officials,the Provincial Judge (Niehtai) issued instructions in the form of a letter to the Magistrates to exterminate all foreigners and native Christians.

Those whom I expect to see punished are the,

Niehtai,Provincial Judge,

Prefect of Laichow city,

Magistrate of I-hsien,and the Magistrate of Weihsien (Tseng)

The prefect of Pingtu.

Those who are worthy of praise are,

the Governor of this Province

The Taotai of this Circuit,Chefoo,

The Prefect of I Chow-fu

The Chow of Chining,

All the Officials of Tengchow and Hwanghsien,

The property destroyed,so far as known,in Shantung Province belonging to Americans is,

The Ling Ch'Ing Station of theAmerican Board Mission (this comes under the jurisdiction of the Consul at Tientsin),

The Presbyterian Mission at Weihsien completely destroyed, we believe not by Boxers or on account of them,but because this place was frequently a place of refuge for the Germans; this result was foreseen by myself some time ago and like everything above,reported to Washington.

The Pingtu Station of the South Baptist Mission was completely looted.

Of the other stations we have no reports of damage or loss,except of looting.

There were no Americans or foreigners hurt,all escaped before the storm broke,most of them in a ship chartered by myself for that purpose.

I have been Consul since February 27th,1890,during which time not a single American has suffered bodily harm, either in Shantung or Chekiang, while under my jurisdiction and the first property lost was that of Weihsien,and I believethat would have been

saved had the occupants left on my first warning,for when all the foreigners had left the interior I passedxall our interests in the hands of the Governor,holding him personally responsible.

I have had especially good opportunities for following this crusade,and when the reactionists assumed power,I knew what it meant,I did all I could for I was positive that mischief was in the air.

In all of my despatches to the Legation and Department since the Coup,there is not a single one that circumstances have not confirmed.

In 1898,I wrote "And the end is not yet".In nearly every subsequent mail I sent warnings,and as the danger increased became more emphatic. In my No.230 of February 13th,1900,saying ###"From these enclosures you will see that affairs are fast drifting to an acute stage and unless something besides issuing flimsy weak proclamations is accomplished,we may fully expect the Boxers or Big Knife men to sweep us all out of China.Certainly there never was a time of greater danger to us in China" ###"Boxers were buying arms of foreigners in Tientsin"###"It is even reported that Prince Tuan,the father of the new Emperor

is the founder and the patron of these Societies. IN THE CASE OF A SUDDEN UPRISING WHAT CAN WE DO. ##### I believe it is the duty of our Government to send a gunboat to every Port in China for the next few months",but to quote my warnings is to practically quote nearly all my despatches of this year,however I close with the last paragraph of my No.257 of March 23rd,

"The storm may never break and then,no doubt,I will be considered an alarmist,but that does not deter me from letting you know the facts.So far at any rate I have not been in error".

While my views as to the future have not been asked,nevertheless I beg to observe that if the Empress Dowager and her minions are allowed to escape,then you can count on the most terrible revolution the world has ever known,and that revolution is now being planned in Chicago,New York,San Francisco,Singapore,Honolulu,in fact wherever a Chinaman can be found that has felt or longs for the benefits of the 19th Century.

The crisis has but just begun,it rests with the Powers to say when it ahsll cease.

The greatest sufferer up to the present is the United

States, and the United States must do its share in hastening the end of this crisis, or suffer the consequences.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

John Fowler

Consul.

No.629. Enclosure No 2

Ack'd Oct 23 1900

Consular Service, U.S.A.

Nanking China, Oct.4th, I900

Sir:

In order to comply with your request sent me through Consul General Sep.I2th, I900.that I report to you the general condition of this Consular District,the steps taken by the local officials to protect the lives,and property of American Citizens, the disposition of the chinese people toward foreigners,and so forth.

I take great pleasure in being able to inform you that as far as I know no American Citizens have been injured in their person or property in this Consular District since the so called"Boxer"movement has been causing so much trouble.

Early in June I began taking steps to prevent any excuse on the part of the Chinese officials for any damage that might be done to American property in the various mission stations,by sending despatches to them stating that the American Government would hold them strictly responsible for any damage that might occur American Citizens or their property in their district.

As affairs grew more and more acute the Viceroy of this province,Liu-Kun-Yi,sent out very stringent orders, to all the officials in the provinces over which he rules, and threatened them with severe punishment and degredation, should they fail to protect,the life and property of foreigners living within their jurisdictions.

I also sent a communication to the Customs Taotai of Chinkiang requesting him to order all the various officials over which he had any control to be vigilant, in watching and guarding the property of American Citizens I received from him the following answer.

"

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of this date, requesting me to inform the officials at Chu-Cheo-fu, Su-Chien, Tsing-Kiang-pu, Yang-chow, Kang-yin, and Chinkiang, concerning the protection of American missionaries and property.

In persuance of your request I will instruct the officials in the prefectures of Yang-chow, Whai-an, Chu-Cheo, Chang-chow, and Chinkiang, to communicate in turn to their subordinates to unite with the military commanders to maintain vigilant patrol for the protection of missionaries and missions?

As military operations became more and more active along the Yangtze, the strengthening of the forts, the increase of troops, the mounting of new guns, and patrolling of streets streets by soldiers and drilling at night even in the rain I began to be apprehensive for the safety of Americans Citizens scattered about through this Consular District, and therefore sent them the following.

Consular Service, U.S.A.

Chinkiang China, July 14th, 1900

To all United States Citizens who may be in the Consular District of Chinkiang,

Greeting.

I William Martin Consul of the United States for the Consular District of Chinkiang China,

Fearing the terrible news concerning the fate of the various Embassies at Peking may be true, and realizing if it is true, the vengence that must be meted out to China for its perfidy and crime, knowing also the work constantly going on to strengthen the forts all along the Yangtze. I deem it my duty to advise every one of you to move temporarily to some place of safety outside the forts of this river.

I cannot assure you protection; should any contingency arise that would cause a shot to be fired from one of the forts on a foreign ship, your chance of going out to sea would be cut off.

To know you were all in a safe place beyond the reach of this danger would be a relief to your friends, your Consul, and your Government, as well as to the Chinese officials who at present feel responsible for your safety.

These are perilous times, do not continue to put the guarding of your life in the hands of officials who may be called upon to kill their own country-men to protect you. <u>It is not safe.</u>

When you leave send me a discription of your property and I will notify the chinese officials in your locality"

Some of them went away at once after receiving the above, others required one or two letters sent them before they would go.

They however all moved out of the District and with two or three exceptions are still out; they are now clamoring to return to their respective mission stations and again take up their work,

In order to speak to them intelligently on the subject I communicated with the Viceroy on the subject through the foreign office and received the following answer."I did not order them out but since they are out I think it is better for them to remain away until some basis of peaceful settlement is decided upon"

The chinese about here seem to be quiet and well disposed as far as I can see, but the officials say it is because the hand of power is on them every minute. I do know that heads are falling here day after day. However as soon as a basis of peace is fixed upon, if no anti-foreign officials come in the District

to rule I believe they can return.

The former Governer of this province who acted as Viceroy during Viceroy Liu-Kun-Yi's visit to Pekingg went up north(during the time the Ministers were shut in)with a lot of troops and joined the Empress and her party,it is now stated he has been made a member of the Grand Consul. No sooner was he made a member than he urged the Throne to severly censure the Viceroys of the Yangtze for their actions in not joining the north in a contest with the foreigners. It is said here that the Viceroy is so vexed at the attempt to bring him into contempt that he says if the Throne is going to constantly chide him he will quit the office.

Should he retire from power and the old Governer succeed in having one of his friends put in his place I doubt about its being safe for the missionaries to return for sometime.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Chas. Denby

U.S.Consul.

To Hon. William W.Rockhill,

United States Commissioner to China.

U. S. Consulate General
OCT 12 1900
HANKOW, CHINA.

ack'd Oct. 23 1900

Enclosure No 3

UNITED STATES CONSULATE.

Hankow, China, October 6th. 1900.

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

U. S. Commissioner to China.

Shanghai.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge your request, of the 7th, ultimo to the Consul General, "asking him to send instructions to the various Consuls in China, directing them to transmit to you, a report of the general conditions of their Consular Districts. Setting forth fully, the steps taken by the local officials, for the protection of American citizens, lives and property. The disposition of the people towards the foreigner and any other information, which they may deem it important the Secretary of State should be possessed of, for a proper comprehension of the present situation."

Up to the beginning of June of the present year, there were few localities in this district, but what a foreigner could visit, without being insulted or threatened by the natives. Hunan which had been considered the most anti-foreign provience in China, and where four years ago, missionaries had been mobbed, and had been unable to establish their Missions,(except the Catholics who had one or two old established Missions), had become more or less friendly, and Missions had been established in 1899, and were meeting with no open acts of hostility, and in some cases the officials and natives were treating the missionaries, with more civility than ever before, and the out-

look for mission work, in that provience was most encouraging.

But after the taking of the Taku forts, and the native city of Tien-tsin. Various rumors began spreading throughout the proviences of this district, that the Taku forts had been retaken, and many thousands of foreigners had been killed. That the Russian soldiers were shooting on sight, every thing that wore a queue, and that war was being made on non-combatants, as well as the Chinese soldiers and Boxers, and other rumors that showed the Chinese were fighting bravely and successfully, against the Powers.

These stories gave the Chinese great confidence in the poweress of the "Boxers" and their soldiers.

All this caused a revolution in the treatment of foreigners by the natives, and a majority of the officials, especially in the proviences of Honan, and Shan-si, and tended to forment and increase their hatred of the foreigner, and a desire to kill him, or drive him out of their country.

From several proviences, the missionaries reported, that a decree had been sent to their localities from Peking, purporting to have been issued by the Empress Dowager, ordering that no protection should be given foreigners, but that they should all be killed.

This being the year with two eight months in it. A year which according to Chinese superstition, always brings trouble in the shape of war, famine, pestilence and death, was a most judicious time for the above rumors to have a serious effect on the Chinese mind, and cause uneasiness. The people expected trouble, and as they claimed the Tai-ping rebellion had broken out in a year with two eight months, and at another year of that kind, one of their Emperors had died, and many other clamities had always happened in these years, and the Astrologers had replaced the last two years that would contain the two eight months, by

doubling other months in the above years, but had said on account of their prognastications, they were forbidden to change the months of this year, from their normal order.

The Chinese believed in the above, and their belief that it was fate and that disasters, terrible would happen this year, has been the chief topic of discussion among the mass of Chinese, since they knew two eight months were to occur this year. Believing as they did, it became an easy matter to form secret societies, especially among the lawless classes, for the purpose of being powerful enough to oppose the Authorities in carrying out successfully, their plans of bettering their conditions, by plunder or otherwise.

After war began in the North, a panic appeared to sieze the natives of this locality. Bankers, merchants and others, began to collect in what was owing them, and refusing extension. Paper money was at a discount, and ten dollars of it was offered for seven dollars in silver. Valuables were being sent to the country, Shanghai, Hong-kong, Japan and elsewhere to places of safty. Thousands of Cantonese and Ningpo famlies, were leaving for their native proviences. Tens of thousands of Chinese were hurrying from the cities to the country, and by the latter part of August, it was estimated that fully one half to two thirds of the citizens of these towns had left their homes.

All the women and children together with the missionaries from the cities and interior, and a majority of foreigners employed in business had left for the coast, Japan or their former homes.

The Viceroy Chang, had issued two or more proclamations, saying he would protect all foreigners, if the Powers would do so and so. These proclamations, both had provisos in them, which tended to give a certain feeling of unrest, to the foreign community. Not knowing but what something would

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occur, which, while the foreigners were depending to a great extent on the Viceroy for protection, would cause the Viceroy to change from a friend to an emeny. Fifteen hundred to two thousand of the worst characters, had been enrolled and armed in Hankow, and were stationed inside the city walls, in order to keep the peace and protect the foreigners. But as usual no foreigner wanted Chinese soldiers, stationed near them, especially as these soldiers, while patrolling the native city at night, would help themselves to whatever they wished at the shops, and were heard to cry kill, the foreign devils.

The Viceroy has acted through all this trouble in a friendly manner to foreigners. We have called on him a number of times for gun-boats and escorts, and they have been furnished promptly every time. He deserves the grateful thanks of all foreigners in this district. If he had been our enemy, many foreign lives would have been sacrificed, and the trouble would have extended to all the Southern Proviences.

The two proclamations he issued about the middle of August," saying if the Allies fired on Peking, or if any thing happened to the Empress Dowager or the Emperor, he would be unable to protect foreigners longer, and that all agreements made with the Powers, were off. Certainly did not tend to give a feeling of confidence in him, to the foreigners in this district. When they knew the small officialls and natives were strongly anti-foreign, and the soldiers at Wu-chang, had threatened to kill the Viceroy, and as it was thought all foreigners in Peking had been massacreed, and the natives here, were ready and ripe for mobbing and looting the foreigner.

About the 20th. of August the Chinese Authorities got information, through a tough character named Teng, that there was a plot formed to kill the Viceroy and his Staff.

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About the 20th. of August the Chinese Authorities got information, through a tough character named Tang, that there was a plot formed to kill the Viceroy and his staff.

capture the arsenal, mint and banks, then set fire to the three cities. They learned afterward that this uprising was to be carried into effect the morning of August 22nd. The leader of the movement, was expected to arrive on a steamer from Shanghai on the 21st. But that steamer was held over a trip and the man did not arrive here, until the afternoon of the 22nd, too late to carry out the plot that was planned for the morning. The leader on getting off the steamer, inquired the way to a house in the foreign settlement, and had a box that excited suspicion on account of its weight. He was shadowed by Chinese detectives and a little after midnight of the morning of the 23rd, the place was surrounded by Chinese soldiers, and concession police and the place raided, about thirty men were captured, documents and papers regarding the league, were found in their possession, showing that the league had over three thousand(3000) members in Hankow alone. That branches of the organization extended nearly all over the Empire, the league had won over two thousand (2000) of the Viceroy's foreign drilled soldiers, stationed at Wu-chang. Many arrests have been made, and the search is still being made for members of the order. Up to the present time of those captured here and at various localities in this district, fifty have been beheaded at Wu-chang.

There are reports that the secret societies are preparing for another uprising.

From the middle of June business became serious-effected and gradually grew less, until at this date, it shows but little signs of reviving, up to the above date the Custom's reports shows that the business for the preceeding half year in this district, was greater than it had ever been before.

I began to call in our missionaries, on the 19th. of June, A few days latter the Viceroy requested me to call

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I began to call in our missionaries, on the 15th. of June. A few days later the Viceroy requested me to call

in all the women and children from the interior. I was in constant correspondence with them both by letter and wire in nearly every part of this district, and as in many places, they reported the natives and officials friendly. I waited a few days hoping that the danger would pass, and it would not be necessary to go to that extreem, but affairs began to look very threatening. Foreigners began wireing from the region of the Yellow river, asking for protection. Again came word that they had been attacked in Honan, several severely wounded and plundered of all they possessed. Missions were being burned in many places, and officials outside of the provience of Hupeh, had become unfriendly to foreigners and in some places informed the missionaries when they applied for help, that they had orders from Peking to afford no futher assistance to foreigners.

I then began to advise all our missionaries to come in and by the last of July, all but about seven of our two hundred (200) missionaries in this district had gone to the coast, and up to the present time, I only know of one who has not gone to the coast, and he is Rev:D.W.Crofts of Lao-ho-keo, who sent his wife,but remained, the only foreigner in that region; in order to assist, mostly English and Swedish missionaries of the China Inland Mission. Who had to change boats, coming down the Han river.

There were ten or twelve American women missionaries, living alone,at different stations of the China Inland Mission, in the southern parts of Kiang-si provisnce, who were not registered here, and it was difficult to say what, Consular district they belonged to, but as no one seemed to be looking after them, I wrote to Mr Orr Ewing at Kiukiang, who was in charge of that section and requested all of the American women stationed there to be brought in. He informed me he would like if I would consent ~~to~~ to leave one, woman at each station, and especially there

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was one station, he would like to have one of our American women remain; I informed him the risk was too great and requested that all, be sent for. He informed me that he would see the Taotai and if he would allow him to go into the interior, he would either go, or send a messenger for the women. About that time nine Protestant and seven Catholics were murdere in Chekiang province, not a great distance from where some of these women were stationed. As I heard nothing more from Mr Ewing, I decided to visit Kiukiang to find out, if they had started in. Mr Hollender who was left in charge in Mr Ewings absence, informed me, Mr Ewing had started some days before for the interior, and part of the women had started in and the rest would soon be on the way. The women had been safely brought to Shanghai, but a few days, when it was reported that six protestant missions in that portion of Kiang-si, had been attacked by the mob and destroyed.

In regard to Mission property. During the latter part of July, I sent a complete list of our Missions and an inventory of property connected with the Missions, to the Viceroy and put them in his care. As far as I can learn, he has sealed the missions, and placed a guard to protect the property. The number of our missions burned, I am unable to say, for we receive no authentic news from the interior, as there are no missionaries there, but I think the loss will be comparitively slight, if no futher trouble occurs.

None of our missionaries in this district, have received any serious injury.

Miss Mary E. Houston of the China Inland Mission. whoo was beaten nearly to death, in Honan or Shan-si died on August IIth, from the effects of her injuries after reaching this province and was brought here for burial. Her companion Miss Rice was beaten to death in Shan-si.

was one station, he would like to have one of our American women remain; I informed him the risk was too great and requested that all, be sent for. He informed me that he would use the Taotai and if he would allow him to go into the interior,he would either go, or send a messenger for the women. About that time nine Protestant and seven Catholics were murdere in Chenkiang province, not a great distance from where some of these women were stationed. As I heard nothing more from Mr Ewing, I decided to visit Kinkiang to find out,if they had started in. Mr Hollander who was left in charge in Mr Ewing's absence, informed me , Mr Ewing had started some days before for the interior, and part of the women had started in and the rest would soon be on the way. The women had been safely brought to Shanghai, but a few days, when it was reported that six protestant missions in that portion of Kiang-si, had been attacked by the mob and destroyed.

In regard to Mission property. During the latter part of July, I sent a complete list of our Missions and an inventory of property connected with the Missions, to the Viceroy and put them in his care. As far as I can learn, he has sealed the missions, and placed a guard to protect the property. The number of our missions burned, I am unable to say, for we receive no authentic news from the interior, as there are no missionaries there, but I think the loss will be comparitively slight, if no further trouble occurs.

None of our missionaries in this district, have received any serious injury.

Miss Mary K. Houston of the China Inland Mission. who was beaten nearly to death, in Honan or Shan-si died on August 11th, from the effects of her injuries after reaching this province and was brought here for burial.

Her companion Miss Rice was beaten to death in Shan-si.

They were plundered of all their property. They belonged to the Consular district of Tien-isin and were probably registered there. I have sent to Shanghai for particulars and will report same to Department.

The Governor of Shang-si deserves to be made an example of, if what the missionaries that have passed through here say, is true. He has caused the death of over fifty missionaries, not to mention the terrible suffering and hardships he has caused, all foreigners that have passed through his provience.

On the other hand the Govenor of Shan-si, has assisted and befreinded all foreigners who have been in his province.

When it will be safe for missionaries to return to their stations, especially in the interior, time can only answer.

If this affair is patched up, the probilities are that many lives will be sacrificed.

The Empress Dowager has ordered the Viceroy Chang, to make Hankow the transportation center, for shipping all tribute, guns, ammunition, money &c to her Court at Hsian, the old capital of Shen-si.

A few days ago we had four gunboats here, the German, French, British and Russian. The former two have left.

I think it would add to the safety of the Americans here, if at least a stand of arms of twelve rifle and ammunition was placed in this Consulate. The British have at least that number, the Germans more than double and the French over fifty, and it should be attended to at once.

I have the honor to be,

Sir:

Your obedient servant,

L. S. Wilcox,

Consul.

They were plundered of all their property. They belonged to the Consulate district of Tien-tsin and were properly registered there. I have sent to Shanghai for particulars and will report same to Department.

The Governor of Shang-si deserves to be made an example of, if what the missionaries that have passed through here say, is true. He has caused the death of over fifty missionaries, not to mention the terrible suffering and hardship he has caused, all foreigners that have passed through his province.

On the other hand the Governor of Shen-si, has protected and befriended all foreigners who have been in his province.

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I have the honor to be,

Sir:

Your obedient servant,

Conant.

Enclosure No 4 Rec'd Oct. 23 1900

SUBJECT:- Condition of affairs at this port.

NO. 569. CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Miscellaneous. FUCHAU, CHINA,

Sept. 15th. 1900.

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

Commissioner Etc.

SIR:-

I have the honor to reprt that I am in receipt of notification from the State Department under date of Juky 27th. 1900, of your appointment as "Commissioner for the United States to China," and of your request through the Consul General at Shanghai, for information Re. thepresent condition of affairs in this Consular district for the information of the State Department. In accordance with these instructions, I have to state, that I have constantly kept the Department informed of all matters and measures relating to the safety and protection of my nationals, in person and property, and the Department is thus fully informed concerning th these matters up to recent date.

Thefollowing statement will give you the desired information, and all events in the future will be reported directly to you. On the 15th. of July last, the foreign Consuls of this port were invited to meet His Excellency, the Viceroy of Min che, Hsu Ying Kuei and H.E. the Tartar General, Shan Lien, The Provincial Judge, Treasurer, and all the High Officials of this Province, to arrange an agreement for protection and mutual helpfulness., which was duly signed and a copy transmitted to the Department of State.

This covenant provided for the protection of foreigners resident in this consular distbet in person and property, irrespective of what might happen in other parts of China.

Enclosure No 1 to Desp. No. 25

Condition of affairs at this port.

SUBJECT:-

NO. 259.

CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Miscellaneous.

FUCHAU, CHINA,

Sept. 15th. 1900.

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

Commissioner Etc.

SIR:-

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This covenant provided for the protection of foreigners resident in this consular district in person and property, irrespective of what might happen in other parts of China.

The consuls on their part only pledged themselves to advise Admirals, that fleets of war vessels might not visit these ports at present, but that single vessels might come and go as usual, lest the people should be alarmed., confirming also the promise of the foreign governments, not to attack the ports of this province so long as order was maintained and persons and property received protection. This agreement has been faithfully carried out up to the present time, except that in some remote districts, noticably that, in a place called Shaowu, some 250 miles in the interior from Fuchau, a mob attacked, looted and destroyed the property of the American Board mission., on the night of the 24th. of July. This was due to, inefficient action on the part of the military magistrate, who failed to give the civil magistrate proper support in his efforts to protect the property. All the foreign missionaries had been away from the place for two months or more, and the property was in the care of only a few natives for that time. The High Officials took immediate action by sending 300 troops to Shaowu, removed the delinquent official, promise punishment, and have done all in their power to restore and maintain order in that district, This was regarded as a particularly quit place and the people especially peaceful. The missionaries who are here, were as much astonished as the officials, that any outbreak should have occurred. Had the foreign missionaries been there no trouble would probably have arisen., as it was clearly a matter of loot, no lives being lossed. I have asked permission from the Department to present a claim for losses sustained, and will have the statement of said losses ready to submit to the officials, by the time approval of my application is received. I can not speak too highly of the extreme measures adopted by the High Officials of this province to insure protection and preserve the peace.

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Excellent proclamation were issued by them from time to time, copies of which have been sent to the Department. The business in this port conducted by foreigners has not been interferred with in the least in this part at any time, and none of the members of the community or families of the same have left the port through fear, although many of the missionaries and their families have gone to places which were regarded as furnishing greater safety, most of them to Japan. Many of the ladies of the English mission went to Hong kong. As there was no visible means of protection by gunboats or means of removal in case of an attack, and as it was the usual time for the vacation of the missionaries, I approved their removal. Many however remained through the summer at their usual resorts at Sharp Peak and Kuliang., which are within a few hours journey of the city. The colleges and schools of the American Methodist mission have been reopened at the regular time of the fall term , and those of the American Board expect to open next week. I have not allowed the missionaries whose work is away from Fuchau to return and shall not do so at present. An exception at Hinghua city, which is located on the sea coast, half way between this city and Amoy. This place has been exceptionally quiet, and the opportunity for escape in case of troubles arrising, were much more favorable than at this city. The male mambers of that mission did not leave their post,: they owned a junk and had reliable men ready to serve them, and could have escaped at any time, while we at Fuchau, are 30 miles from the coast up the Min river, and neither nor any of my colleagues, colud secure the presence of a Gunboat, and we were utterly helpless to escape had we been attacked. We now have a British and Japanese gunboat guarding the cable landing at the mouth of the river, and a German war vessel at the anchorage, ten miles below the

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city. In this connection I may say, I think this port should never be left without a gunboat of some nationality, as the presence of such, has a controlling effect upon the rowdy element and also upon the officials,, and provides a way of escape for foreigners if we should be attacked. In the preservation of order during the last few months, the officials increased the local police force by several hundre men, and stationed 3oo soldiers in the foreign settlement, who were at all times ready for action when called upon by the police. At all times when the vagabond class have threatened trouble they have been promptly subdued and many were arrested and pinished. The Consuls were requested to keep in constant communication with the officials and every request of any of our number received prompt attention.

While I adhere to the statement concerning the good order which has been maintained, I would not have you think we have beeh free from danger. Inflammatory placards of the most violent character were frequently posted and combinations of evil disposed persons were known to have planned attacks upon foreigners more than once; dates for such attacks were fixed, and secret societies were ready to carry into execution, ~~such attempts~~, but as we usually became informed of their plans, through native Christians and the Missionaries, we were able to inform the officials in time to enable them to crush out the effort. Had the officials weakened for one day the foreign community would have been attacked. Persons passing along the streets were frequently openly threatened with killing. The people were aware of the edicts of Prince Tuan and the Dowager Empress, and an immense number would have been only too pleased to have carried them out.

There is great agitation in the public mind now, as the news from the North trickles through various sources to the ignorant people, and all through the country districts there

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There is great agitation in the public mind now, as the news from the North trickles through various sources to the ignorant people, and all through the country districts there

is more persecution of the native christians than I have ever known, and I am sorry to say there seems to be but little disposition on the part of the local magistrates to give them protection. This invloves in many cases peril to chapel and school property belonging to the different American missions. I am doing what I can to protect both.

This is all I have time to report at present as the mail for the North is closing to day. I will report to you or the Minister regularly.

I am

SIR

with great respect

Your obedient serv't

Samuel L Gracey.

U. S. Consul.

I hope you may be able to visit us at Foochow.

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I am

SIR

with great respect

Your obedient serv't

Thomas J. Byers.

U. S. Consul.

I hope you may be able to visit us at Tientsin.

(8)

rec'd Oct. 29. 1900

Enclosure No. 5

No. 524
M. S.

Consulate of the United States of America.
Amoy, China, Sept. 20, 1900.

Honorable W. W. Rockhill,
U. S. Commissioner,
Shanghai.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge receipt of your request made through the Consul-General that the Consuls in China send you a "report on the general conditions of their consular districts setting forth the steps taken by the local officials for the protection of American citizens, lives and property, the disposition of the people towards foreigners and any other information which they may deem it important the Secretary of State should be possessed of for a proper comprehension of the present situation".

The record of the recent troubles in Amoy consequent upon the burning of a small Japanese chapel, by accident or otherwise not determined, and the landing of marines, has been supplied the Department from time to time and I assume is not called for in the above instruction.

When the trouble began in the North in June, there was comparative quiet and order throughout this Consular district and in fact the entire Province. At Amoy and some five or six important cities adjacent within thirty miles, between which and Amoy regular communication is kept up by means of numerous launches making daily trips, most friendly relations with foreigners exist. This good will has materially increased within the past three years since launches were first permitted to ply on inland waters. The establishment of the first regular runs was opposed by native boatmen, but now these launches are exceedingly popular and during the year 1899 542,919 passengers were carried, as shown by the Customs returns. The number of passengers carried during the six months ending June 30th, 1900, shows a great increase tho exact figures are not available.

The principal cities reached by these launches are

Chuan Chew, Tung An, Wa Hai, Chobe, and HingHwa, including intermediate stops. Foreign merchants frequent these cities and have made trade connections with local firms. Most of the launches are under foreign flags.

The result is that little prejudice exists among the people against foreigners, while native merchants are constantly appealing to the various foreigners with whom they come in contact to take steps to secure the right for the launches to carry cargo as well as passengers, which so far has not been permitted by the imperial Customs. They also ask aid in developing the various mineral resources of the country and in no way have I been able to discover a well grounded prejudice against the foreign merchant or trader.

I have been 150 miles inland from Amoy and spent some time examining the mineral deposits and as a result have been frequently petitioned by the various clans owning the mineral-bearing hills to assist them in getting foreigners to develop the mines. The Taotais and local magistrates have expressed their willingness to indorse the enterprise where the people desired it, all of which would indicate no lack of good will and friendliness up to the time of the outbreak in the north.

In some localities there has been some friction between the missionaries and the converts on one side and the petty magistrates and non-Christians on the other. This was especially marked in certain districts where numerous quarrels between native Christians and non-Christians had been taken up by the missionaries under various pleas, usually that the native convert was being persecuted by the heathens, thus bringing the cases within the vicinity of if not under the treaty provision on that subject.

Soon after taking over charge of this Consulate I encountered so many of these quarrels that I made an investigation which resulted in my refusing to take up any case where the most positive proof of a clear case of persecution was not furnished, and at the same time instructed

American missionaries that they must keep their hands off local quarrels. I have insisted upon the observance of this rule and have only had one case of "persecution" reported to me within 18 months. The missionaries here, I think, are convinced of the wisdom of this course and inform me that they are not appealed to so often since the converts learned that their quarrels do not concern foreigners.

I am sorry to say that some churches here do not keep out of these quarrels and that where it is most prevalent there is most ill-will toward foreigners and between converts and non-Christians. I am firmly of the opinion that the greatest element of discord in China centers about the clause in our treaty which gives the Consul the right to appeal to the native officials for the protection of converts against persecution. It is a weapon which a convert uses to enable him to enlist the services of his pastor in any trouble that may arise, and through the pastor the Consul and higher officials are involved. I have never seen nor heard of a single case where this clause of the treaty promoted harmony, suppressed trouble or gave a guarantee for the maintenance of order. It seems to have an unbroken record as a promoter of ill-will.

If in the readjustment of affairs in China the new treaties would so hedge about the civic powers of missionaries that they would have left simply the right to preach, practice, and teach their new religion and that no right remained to them to appeal as advocates, or protectors of the persons of the converts any more than is now afforded a merchant to protect his servants, a great service would be rendered the church and one of the greatest elements of discord in China would be removed.

I do not believe that hatred toward foreigners grows out of commercial intercourse but on the contrary prejudices are overcome by such intercourse and that every extension of the right to enter the interior and deal with the native is attended with good results. Open the country

to settlement and trade, then Chinese will learn that not all who come to China seek to abolish their ancient customs or religion.

When the news of the massacres in the north reached this province and the placards of the I Ho Chuan or Boxers, were generally posted, the turbulent element in the interior began to manifest a disposition to assail the native converts, and later the missionaries were subjected to open insult. At this stage I requested all American missionaries to return to Amoy. I held frequent consultations with Taotai Yen of Amoy. I had been on the most intimate terms with him, having acted as his adviser in several important cases, and took occasion to impress upon him the fact, those officials who maintained order would be in great favor when the troubles were over as the result must ultimately be the downfall of those who were responsible for any outbreaks.

He took vigorous measures to suppress the placards issued proclamations and dispatch troops to any locality where danger was threatened. Later the agreement between the Viceroys and Consuls as to the Central and Southern provinces was announced and he subscribed to it and assured me that he would do his part if I would report any threatened danger. There has been no trouble under his jurisdiction although his territory covers a large area and contains probably a hundred missionary stations and many thousands of native adherents to the various Christian denominations.

The northern and western portion of the province comes under the Chang Chew Taotai, Mr. Yung, (榮瑾). This Taotai took the opposite course. He would pay little attention to any notice of any assault upon Mission property or native Christians unless it was to defend his subordinates and blame the Christians. Chapel after chapel was looted, native pastors assaulted, yet he made no arrests although the names of the guilty were furnished him. The matter be-

came so bad that I appealed to the Viceroy and he asked the Amoy Taotai to see me and decide upon what was best to do. At my suggestion 200 soldiers were sent up to assist in maintaining order. After this but few chapels were destroyed. Between the American and English Missions about twenty chapels were looted or destroyed. The Americans had about forty stations in the district. These depredations were always committed by a very few persons and at any time the arrest and punishment of a few leaders would have put an end to the outrages in the entire locality. They were not molested.

The Viceroy sent the President of the Foreign Board down to look into the matter. This man, Taotai Chen, is known for his reactionary tendencies. He staid in Amoy and refused to go up to the district as ordered. After his return the Foreign Board sent identical notes to the English and Japanese Consuls and to me inclosing a report on the troubles from the Chang Chew Taotai in which the blame was again laid upon the converts and requesting that the chapels be all closed, the valuables removed and then turned over to the officials and that we give instructions that no services should be held until peace was assured and the chapels returned. This of course we refused to do on the ground that to do so would be to invite greater trouble when the chapels were reopened, and further on the ground that the officials had declared their ability to preserve order and that it was clearly within their power if they displayed any disposition to punish a few of the guilty.

As to the troubles in Amoy resulting in the landing of troops by the Japanese and later by the English it was not caused by any dereliction on the part of the Chinese officials. There was never any danger of an attack upon foreigners. The real danger came after about 50,000 natives fled to the country when they thought the Japanese were

going to shell the city. The presence of Japanese marines prevented local troops from patrolling the streets or suppressing the thieves who were looting abandoned homes and who were liable to burn the city and with it foreign property. The history of these events has already been furnished by this office.

I think it is my duty in this connection to call especial attention to the good work done by Taotai Yen, who spent his days and nights in endeavoring to preserve order although at one time the soldiers mutinied and refused to go on duty, and when the Admiral or Tetai who had charge of all the troops refused to leave his Yamen or to make any effort at all to preserve order. He sent his family away and tried to get away himself, even threatened to commit suicide.

The success of the Taotai has brought upon him the ill-will of the Foreign Board at Foochow. The President of the Board while here tried to rob him of the honor of adjusting the troubles and when he returned he made such a report that the Taotai is now in danger of being made to suffer because of supposed pro-foreign views. The Viceroy has repeatedly telegraphed profuse thanks to the Admiral for having adjusted the troubles here, and two days ago received another long telegram of commendation, also authority to distribute money to the troops as a special prize for their "valuable services".

These were the troops that rebelled and were only induced to return to their posts when I loaned the Taotai money to pay them one month's wages. On the other hand not one word of congratulation or approval has been received by the Taotai from any of his superiors, and the President of the Foreign Board has asked to be given the Taotai's post. The Consuls assured him that if he preserved order they would protect him. It now looks like we would be confronted with the necessity of asking that our Governments see that he does not become the victim of the envious or revengeful mandarines in the Provincial Capital.

The people of this province are naturally quiet and peace loving. They have furnished several million emigrants to the Straits, Saigon, Java and the Philippines during the past two or three generations. Many of these emigrants go back and forth, hence they have become more familiar with foreigners than the native of any other province of China. Many who have never seen foreigners have been taught by brothers, fathers, or cousins that the white Man is not always necessarily an enemy. This influence has much to do with shaping the character of the native and allaying the natural antipathy which so often marks the intercourse between the Oriental and the Occidental.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Burlingame Johnson

U. S. Consul.

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I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[illegible]

Rec'd Oct. 23 1900

Enclosure No 6

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

CANTON, CHINA, September 22nd 1900.

Hon: W. W. Rockhill,
United States Commissioner,
Shanghai.

Sir:

I have received through the Hon: John Goodnow, U.S. Consul-General of China, your letter of instructions dated Shanghai, Sept 7th 1900 reading as follows:

"John Goodnow Esq.
U. S. Consul-General, Shanghai,

Sir.

In order to comply with the instructions of the Secretary of State directing me to report on the general condition of affairs in China, especially in their relation to American interests, I have to request that you will send instructions to the various Consuls of the United States in China, directing them to transmit to me here at the earliest possible date, reports on the general condition of their Consular Districts, setting forth fully the steps taken by the local officials for the protection of american citizens, lives and property: the disposition of the people towards the foreigners and any other information which

which they may deem it important the Secretary of State should be informed of for a proper comprehension of the present situation.

I have, &c.

signed W. W. Rockhill,

U.S. Commissioner."

In reply to the foregoing I have the honor to report that affairs in my Consular District, embracing Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan, covering an area of over 170,000 square miles, with an estimated population of over 80,000,000, are generally in a disturbed and unsatisfactory condition. Since the departure of H. E. Li Hung Chang from Canton, several months ago, the situation has been critical on frequent occasions especially in Kwangtung, chiefly through the well-known turbulence of the natives of that Province. When Li Hung Chang, in obedience to an alleged Imperial Edict, turned over the Viceroyalty to H. E. Tao Tow, the Governor of Kwangchung, and left here for Shanghai ostensibly en route for the North, the Two Kwangs were comparatively speaking, peaceful and law-abiding, and piracy on the West River was apparently at an end. This condition was caused solely by the stern and inflexible way in which Li Hung Chang

acted

meted out Chinese justice to all offenders. Pirates, murderers, robbers, and disturbers of the peace suffered death in various forms according to the degree of their crimes or received such severe punishment from bamboozing, &c. that evil-doers were terrified.

Scarcely however, had he sailed when piracy began anew on the West River and reports began to come in from different and distant points in the Consular District of attacks on Chapels, mission-stations, &c. The people generally, except the merchant class and the boatmen, exhibited open and decided hostility to all foreigners, particularly the missionaries, male and female. At almost all of the ports (7) treaty ports, Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, exciting placards, manifestations of the anti-foreign sentiment of the masses became more frequent. Threats of "killing the foreigners" were freely indulged in, but, for a brief spell, there were no acts of personal violence. As the news from the North filtered southward inflammatory placards or posters began to be sold on the streets of the various cities and villages at a cash a piece. The ignorant masses were only too ready to accept the

the placards denunciations of the "foreign devils" and to obey their exhortations to burn, destroy, and pillage the chapels, &c.

Noting the changed aspect I counselled all the missionaries to retire, with their wives and families, to ports of refuge, such as Macao and Hongkong. Whilst advising them to abandon their fields of labor, temporarily, I instructed them to do so gradually and quietly so as to avoid all appearance of fear and at the same time keep their converts from being alarmed or panic-stricken. My advice was largely followed and as a result none of our missionaries have either lost their lives or been maltreated. Some of their converts, I am sorry to say, have been beaten. But no lives have been lost. I applied to H. E. Acting Viceroy Tai for guards for the protection of the mission chapels, hospitals, asylums and schools, which be promptly granted. I did this so that those places being under the care and custody of Viceregal soldiers or guards no appeal or disclaimer could be made against any claim for damages or indemnity on our part if any or all of those buildings were in any way damaged or looted.

Withers

Within the last six weeks the promiscuous distribution of incendiary proclamations emanating I firmly believe, from the literati and foreign-hating Mandarins so excited and inflamed the minds of the people that they tore down and otherwise destroyed a number of Chapels and mission houses or stations, at Ung Kang, (near Swatow) Tsing Hen (70 miles from Canton) Kang Chok (near Amoy) and several other localities. As soon as each case was reported to me I, personally notified H.E. of the facts, and demanded an investigation, punishment of the malefactors, and reparation for all damage done and property stolen. It is but fair and just to him, that I should say that at all times H.E. has evinced his desire and perfect willingness to do all in his power to meet my views, and to have justice impartially administered. He is handicapped by many anti-foreign subordinates, civil and military, who make false reports to him concerning their pretended investigations of complaints of various kinds. At times I have almost felt that he was afraid to exercise his authority as strictly as circumstances demanded. I remember, however, that he is only an acting Viceroy and

and feels that he may be called to account for his pro-foreign administration by an anti-foreign successor.

Canton is the key to the southern situation and a glance at its present conditions and population may be of interest to you. It is the greatest treaty port in China and is built on the banks of the Pearl River. It is the capital of Kwang Tung, has an estimated population in the city of 1,500,000 and in the suburbs, junks, &c: on the river of about 300,000. Here reside the Viceroy, Governor, Tartar General, Hoppo or Superintendent of Customs and other important civil and military officials. For the protection of the foreign element and the preservation of peace there are now anchored in the Pearl River, five small gunboats — one American, two British, one German, and one French.

In Canton and vicinity house and street robberies, clan fights, and outrages of various kinds are of daily occurrence. It is stated on evidently good authority that there are, at this date, over 50,000 men out of work and with no prospect of employment for them in the near future. The banks refuse practically to do any

business

business in the way of loaning money to manufacturers and others, who, are thus compelled to stop operations and discharge their workpeople. This army of idle men and women, thronging the streets, and conversing with the lazy and vicious vagabonds with whom Canton is infested is an added menace to the safety of the foreign element and to the maintenance of law and order. Some of the mandarins and of the so-called literati are increasing the danger of the situation by the printing and circulation of abominably inflammatory "proclamations" and alleged Imperial edicts. Up to within a month ago these vile things were circulated through the medium of irresponsible obscure smokers. The dread of arrest and possibly severe punishment deterred others from participating in their distribution. The assurances of some officials and the openly avowed anti-foreign sentiment of the remainder wiped out that fear; and the result is that these most dangerous incitements to murder and pillage are now not only freely posted at the street-corners but are also distributed in large numbers in dwelling-houses,

close.

Mosques, factories, and even in one instance in a Christian Chapel. Here are literal translations of two of the latest "proclamations":

1. "Imperial Decree had been received on the 27th of 7th moon stating that a memorial presented by Li Ping Heng saying that over 20,000 foreigners had been lost during the late battle in Peking. It is really done by bravery as well as good plans. Li Ping Heng is awarded with a two-eyed peacock feather, Ma Yu Kuan with a yellow jacket and Tung Ching with a title of one of the six boards. 100,000 Taels had been sent to Li Ping Heng from the Board of Revenue to be awarded to the soldiers as an encouragement, and instructing to plan for the recapture of Tientsin and Taku. Another Decree had been received on the 28th of 7th moon stating that a great number of foreign soldiers arrived at Peking, relying upon their superior arms and ammunitions marched into the depth of the capital. fortunately Li Ping Heng has displayed his tricks by pretending to be defeated induced the enemy to follow as far as the Yuan Ting river and by breaking the banks of said river its water overflooded the surrounding places and many of the foreign

soldiers

soldiers were drowned, and some were blown up by undermine torpedoes and some were killed by the Chinese troops, consequently the whole forces were nearly exterminated. Li Hung Chang should be immediately and specially rewarded for his action. The breaking of the Banks of the Yuan Tung river had also drowned many of the natives living thereabout. The government was compelled to do so at that time. Orders had been given to open the grain department for the benefit of the suffering natives and to have the banks of said river rebuilt."

2. "Yesterday the Tartar General and the Acting Governor received by Telegraph an Imperial Edict dated the 8th of the 8th moon, as follows:- In the 20th year of Kwangsü the small country of Japan revolted against the great Chinese Empire, and when we should have beaten Japan, the ignorant officials gave them the victory and humbled China, thus causing outside nations to despise her and also causing the people and rulers of China to burn with righteous indignation. In the present war fortunately we have gotten a great victory, thanks to the spirits of our ancestors who

exhorted the people and rulers to be of one heart and one mind, so that our former anger is removed and our dignity restored. Now in view of the present victory we ought to utterly destroy all the vile foreigners, enduring hardship for a moment that we may enjoy everlasting peace. But the laws of China are benevolent, and remembering that the various nations have done business with China there many years, and that those who are settled here have families and property, and that if all them are killed we will lose the favor of heaven, therefore we (the Emperor) order Li Lok; and all Viceroys and Governors near the sea, to instruct all Consuls to immediately telegraph their respective governments of China's great victory and of their own humiliation and that if they are to continue to do business it must be according to the treaties.

We also order Jung Lut Heung to drive out all foreigners and if they are unwilling to go to put them to death.

Now make this Edict, with the following, know,

1. The nations combined must pay an indemnity of $1,200,000,000,

2. all territory taken from China before the

Japanese

Japanese war to be open to the trade of all nations.

3. No Consuls to have jurisdiction over their own people, but matters between China and foreigners to be judged according to former treaties.

4. Commercial privileges to be granted to all nations, and the right to preach the gospel denied to all. Native Christians who repent and recant to be forgiven.

5. All territory taken from China since the Japan war to be restored within 3 months.

6. Moukden must be delivered up.

---

3. I the Emperor, although without virtue or great deeds yet receiving the blessing of my ancestors, have been exalted to the throne. My power, like the power of the summer sun to melt the winter's ice, continually the princes sought to control and circumscribe. Foreigners from the four quarters of the earth, lord it over me and make game of me. In the quiet of the night my soul is troubled until I rise up and wipe out the disgrace and take revenge. From the time I took the throne till now, although not communicating to the people any virtue, yet their hidden sorrows have long

long been clearly known to me.

Outwardly do I hear from every province through Viceroys, Governors, the Six Boards, and the Nine Nobles, what they say. Chinese and foreigners who are on friendly terms with each other are both alike foreigners and are not my people.

The Classics say, the wretch is not to be confused to earthly profit, nor earthly profit to peace among men. I hear that the people have been inspired now. Does not my heart ache and is not my head sick?

Fortunately, trusting Heaven for protection, the Boxers thought to do valiant service. The Army officers burned of them to crown themselves. At Tientsin several engagements have been fought. The Six nations have had their bravado entirely brought down. Now it is known that the thousands of salaried officers are not worth a single Boxer. Officials who for generations have received favor and honor are not worth a fifty officer in the army (i.e. who has joined the Boxers).

Now, know well, ye soldiers, people, and everybody

everybody in each Province, that although the foreigners have arms, yet in the future if they defile my country or enter its borders you must accuse them before the local officials and drive them back. If they are unwilling to go, kill them and have no mercy.

Kwangsu. 26th year, 6th month, 28th day.

Done by Imperial Order. Affixed from a Telegram. Jio-shing District, seat of the Magistrate.

Tie (the Magistrate) like the people know. Sent forth to be posted at Tsin Market."

This Imperial Proclamation was posted by Jao Ting Magistrate throughout district one day following the looting of the Mission Chapels, &c. at Ningkung.

A mob of over 1,000 Tartars and Chinamen made a riotous demonstration at the Acting Viceroy's Yamun last Sunday night, causing him so much trepidation that he has, since then, considerably increased the number of his "braves". The same night another mob of rowdies attacked the dwelling of an assistant teacher of

Tung

Jung Wen Ellege and denouncing him "known he was a Christian"; rumored and burned all of his furniture, books, clothes, &c. Two employés of I. M. Customs had a similar experience that night because of their supposed Christianity.

Foreigners cannot, with any safety traverse the old city or a considerable portion of its roundly limit addition unless escorted by armed soldiers. And the presence of the military escort, however large, doesn't deter the natives from assailing the hated foreigner with foul epithets and the usual cries of "kill the foreign devil!" Assuredly matters are not improving fast in this turbulent city of a characteristically turbulent Province.

My conclusions, summarized, are as follows:

1. Acting Viceroy Tak, a friendly old man, with a pro-foreign leaning, is doing his utmost to re-control the situation as to safeguard the lives and property of all foreigners. He issues proclamations frequently, declaring that the foreigners and their property must not be molested, that the peace must be preserved and that arrest and the severest punishment await those who disturb the peace or interfere with the foreign Christian or the Christian converts or their places of worship.

at

At any instance he has degraded and removed from office five notoriously anti-foreign Magistrates whose hostility to the missionaries and their converts encouraged the roughs and other disaffected natives to attack the chapels and converts.

2. The corrupt officials — and I don't believe there's a thoroughly honest and patriotic man among them all — detest the foreigners, particularly the missionaries, whose humanizing and civilizing influences are gradually but surely opening the people's eyes to their debased condition of moral and physical servitude.

3. Universal system of squeezing, practised by all officials, civil and military, from the highest in power down to the runners for the Yamens, has brought the mass of the people to such a state of mind that they are almost glad to welcome any uprising or disturbance.

4. Clan fights are of common occurrence among the natives and result frequently in considerable loss of life and destruction of property.

5. Nearly all local officials within easy reach of H.B.M. fail protect our nationals and other foreigners and their property. H.E. has found difficulty in

in controlling officials at a distance.

6. The steps taken for the protection of american citizens, their lives and property are:

(a.) Proclamations by A. E. to all civil and military officials.

(b.) Guard-boats and small bodies of soldiers stationed at points requiring their presence.

(c.) Punishment of malefactors.

7. The Chinese, as a rule, have a feeling that is akin to hatred of foreigners. In Canton, however, they seem at times to show a liking for americans, but its not genuine. In trade and other dealings, they prefer americans to other nationalities.

8. No reports have come from Kwangsi or Yunnan of uprisings, riotous disturbances or lootings of any account.

9. According to the claims lodged with me and presented to A. E. the entire damage to Chapels, mission-stations and homes and personal property of converts will not exceed $50,000 Mex: in the Province of Kwang Sung. If the gun-boats were not at Canton the damage would be over twenty times that amount and the lives of all foreigners would be in absolute peril. Their presence is our safety.

$ 250 Mex

10. If the elders of the villages, the gentries, merchants and bankers of the towns and cities were held personally responsible for the maintenance of peace and for the protection of the lives of foreigners and their property in their respective localities there would be few disturbances and no lootings in Southern China.

11. Business is very nearly at a standstill throughout Kiangsu Chang, and the only hope of a change for the better entertained by Chinese and foreigners alike lies they say "in a settlement of things up North". So far as the treaty ports in my Consular District are concerned they are all admirably situated and adapted for an extensive commerce with the United States. With Canton especially and its many tributary little towns and villages a most profitable trade in all branches of industry could be easily built up. Peace on a permanent and satisfactory basis, is all that is needed to "set the wheels in motion."

12. The interference of Missionaries in cases purely Chinese is a prolific source of trouble.

It causes no end of endless friction with the Chinese authorities and to the natives at large it is a dangerous irritant.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Robert M. McNairy.

U.S. Consul.

Enclosure No. 7.

CIRCULATION MORE THAN 5,000,000.

CHINA AGENCY OF THE

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

CABLE ADDRESS: "BIBLES SHANGHAI."

Bibles for sale in all languages,

REV. JOHN R. HYKES,
AGENT.

Room & Shipping Department on Ground Floor.
Entrance on Kiangsi Road.
15 A Kiukiang Road.

Shanghai, Oct. 22, 1900.

Dear Mr. Rockhill,—

The number of Americans massacred since these troubles began is 66. There are 9 who are supposed to be en route to Siberia. They are not included in the above total.

I sent the telegrams to Kaochang and Tientsin as requested.

If I can be of any service to you, I shall be glad if you will command me.

Yours sincerely,

John R. Hykes


BIBLE
SOCIETY.

Enclosure No. 8.

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Shanghai, China, October 23rd 1900

Dear Mr. Rockhill:- First

In accordance with your request I have made enquiries regarding the native banks at Shanghai and find that there have been 2 large failures, which took place last week. One was the Chiang Ta bank and the other the Yih Ta bank, owned by the Compradores of the Hongkong & Shanghai

Hon. W. W. Rockhill.
U. S. Commissioner
etc. etc. etc.

Bank and Russo-Chinese Bank. the liabilities amounted to over Tls 800,000. More are expected to follow at the end of this moon (9th Moon). as the Native banks at Shanghai settle their accounts twice every year namely, the End of the 3rd Moon and End of the 9th Moon.

The banks are making no advances, and are collecting as fast as they can all outstanding accounts. Their intention I believe is not to do any business until peace is settled.

The loss sustained through Tientsin merchants, will amount to a million taels.

There are some 40 odd natives banks in Shanghai - and all are keeping quiet. and I believe

not a shiske of business has been done since hostilities broke out in the North.

Regarding Viceroy Chang's proclamation the 'Shanghai Mercury' of Oct. 11th has a translation of same.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please let me know, and I shall only be too happy to assist to the best of my ability.

I remain,

Yours Very Respectfully.

18. Tseng Laisun.

Shanghae, 26th Octr 1900

W. W. Rockhill, Esq.,

Dear Sir:-

We beg to submit a few considerations upon the present political situation as it affects American trade with China, in the hope that you may find it expedient to represent them to our Government as a contribution toward a proper understanding of the position.

As you are well aware, but as may not be appreciated generally in the United States, trade in American Imports in China is practically centred here, as the chief distributing market for all the region watered by the Yangtsze River, and the Northern ports, viz: Chefoo, Tientsin, and Newchwang. Native dealers from the consuming markets come here for their supplies, and native banking facilities exist on an extensive scale and with wide ramifications for the effective prosecution of trade with the interior after the merchandise shall have passed from foreign hands. This port is likewise the principal exporting centre of native produce for the United States, the supplies being drawn from the Northern ports named and the interior ports on the Yangtsze and elsewhere, entirely through native agencies. Any disturbance in the interior, therefore, of a nature to affect the security of property and transportation and banking facilities, naturally immediately reacts upon the trade of American and other foreign merchants here, irrespective of the fact that local conditions remain quiescent.

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The outbreak in June last around Tientsin came at a time when large engagements had been entered upon between foreign and native merchants for the supply of the usual summer demand for American Cotton fabrics at the Northern ports. It may be remarked, in this connexion, that these ports constitute the consuming markets for 90 % of the total Imports into China of our Cotton fabrics. Further, these fabrics comprise the bulk of trade in American Imports. The Yangtsze region consumes 6% c 7 % only of such Imports. The supreme importance of North China to our trade is therefore obvious. The disturbances at Tientsin caused an immediate suspension of all trade to or from that place, and, with some slight exceptions in the case of native produce exported thence, trade after a lapse of nearly five months has not been resumed and no indication of resumption exists at present.

The disturbances about Tientsin and the Capital were soon followed by similar outbreaks throughout Manchuria, with an entire cessation of trade at Newchwang, which is the port of entry of all that region and where the development of business in our fabrics has been especially encouraging. The principal native firms have absolutely closed their establishments and left the port, whilst the interior continues to be the scene of active warlike operations between the Russian and native forces. Thus both the principal outlets for our trade in the North have been closed, and the vast interior regions hitherto supplied through them have been and continue to be cut off from their usual sources of supply.

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The losses in consequence to American merchants, actual and prospective, have been heavy, and no prospect is held out of relief until the Northern regions shall have been pacified and confidence restored. Native dealers are unable to fulfil their engagements, all banking facilities have been withdrawn, and the whole trade is "held up" pending adjustment of the political question.

This condition here reacts upon our manufacturers at home, all orders being withdrawn and goods, where possible, being thrown back upon producers. China had become by far the chief consumer of American Cotton abroad, the export exceeding that to all other quarters combined, and this trade of late years has shown a marked and rapid development. Supplies have been drawn very largely from our Southern Mills, and many Mills in that region depend almost wholly upon the demand for their output in China. This demand has suddenly been cut off, with resulting embarrassment and distress to planters of Cotton, Capitalists and operators alike, and relief can only be hoped for from early and efficient action on the part of foreign powers, looking to a solution of the complicated question that confronts them.

We do not presume to offer any suggestion upon the political question involved, beyond expressing the opinion that the maintenance of the integrity of the Empire under a reformed Government is an essential factor toward the prosperity of our trade.

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We do not presume to offer any suggestion upon the political question involved, beyond expressing the opinion that the maintenance of the integrity of the Empire under a reformed Government is an essential factor toward the prosperity of our trade.

Bearing upon the foregoing, we beg to enclose the following exhibits:

1. Re Exports of American Cottons Jan'y 1 to June 30,1899 & 1900.
2. " " " " " July 1 " Decr 31, " " "
3. " " " " " years 1899 and 1900 (latter
4. " " Kerosine Oil. estimated).

5. Table of Imports and Re-exports American Cottons for five years, 1894 to 1898, inclusive.

Commending these views to your consideration,

We remain,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient servants,

pp Pearson Daniel & Co
Wisner & Co
Jno. Swan & Co.
CHINA AND JAPAN TRADING COMPANY, Limited
Sabey Dekay MANAGER.
THE AMERICAN TRADING CO.
Wm. R. Ball Acting Agent.
Geo. H. Macy & Co

The losses in consequence to American merchants,

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We remain,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient servants,

CHINA AND JAPAN TRADING COMPANY.

THE AMERICAN TRADING CO.

Re-Exports from Shanghai from 1st January to 30th June, 1899 and 1900.

	1899.	1900.
Sheetings	1,861,679 pieces	1,374,154 pieces
Drills	610,425 "	389,610 "
Jeans	44,995 "	42,030 "
	2,517,099	1,805,794

Of the above, 2,154,584 pieces or 85 % went to Tientsin and Newchwang in 1899, against 1,321,795 pieces or 73 % to these ports during the first six months of this year. The decrease was no doubt, to some extent, due to the increased cost of Goods, owing to the advance in Cotton.

Re-Exports from Shanghai from 1st January to 30th June, 1899 and 1900.

	1899.	1900.
Sheetings	1,861,679 pieces	1,374,184 pieces
Drills	610,426 "	389,610 "
Yarns	44,938 "	42,030 "
	2,517,099	1,805,794

Of the above, 2,184,884 pieces or 85 % went to Tientsin and Newchwang in 1899, against 1,321,798 pieces or 73 % to these ports during the first six months of this year. The decrease was no doubt, to some extent, due to the increased cost of Goods, owing to the advance in Cotton.

CHINA AND JAPAN TRADING COMPANY,
MANAGER.
THE AMERICAN TRADING CO.

Re-Exports from 1st July to 31st December, 1899, with estimated figures for same period of 1900.

	1899.	estimated 1900.
Sheetings	1,661,375 pieces	130,530 pieces
Drills	901,854 "	146,598 "
Jeans	77,430 "	23,185 "

Showing a probable decrease of 2,300,000 pieces of an estimated value of Gold dollars 5,000,000, first cost without freight or charges. The greater part of this decrease is caused by the interruption of Trade with Tientsin and Newchwang, which ports we should have expected to take fully 2,000,000 pieces of all kinds during the last six months of the year.

Re-Exports from Shanghai from 1st January to 30th June, 1899 and 1900.

	1899.	1900.

Re-Exports from 1st July to 31st December, 1899, with estimated figures for same period of 1900.

	1899.	estimated 1900.
Sheetings	1,661,375 pieces	130,830 pieces
Drills	901,864 "	146,538 "
Yarns	77,430 "	23,185 "

Showing a probable decrease of 2,300,000 pieces of an estimated value of Gold dollars 5,000,000, first cost without freight or charges. The greater part of this decrease is caused by the interruption of Trade with Tientsin and Newchwang, which ports we should have expected to take fully 3,000,000 pieces of all kinds during the last six months of the year.

Re Exports from Shanghae to other ports in China, from 1st January to 31st December, 1899, with estimated figures for same period of 1900.

	1899.	estimated for 1900.
Sheetings	3,523,054 pieces	1,505,000 pieces
Drills	1,512,279 "	535,000 "
Jeans	122,425 "	65,000 "

A decrease of 3,052,758 pieces, or about 168,000 Bales of an estimated value of Gold dollars 6,300,000 = first cost without freight.

Re Exports from Shanghai to other ports in China, from 1st January to 31st December, 1899, with estimated figures for same period of 1900.

	1899.	estimated for 1900.
Sheetings	3,823,064 pieces	1,300,000 pieces
Drills	1,818,279 "	636,000 "
Yarns	182,426 "	66,000 "

A decrease of 3,052,768 pieces, or about 188,000 Bales of an estimated value of Gold dollars 6,300,000 = First cost without freight.

MEMORANDUM.

FROM

FEARON, DANIEL & CO.

(of China)

omit

SHANGHAI, 27th Oct 1900

Dear Rockhill The accompanying note contains all the information that I can obtain at present of the Standard Oil Co's dealings with Nunt Yamen in connection with the alleged $1,000,000 gold - bymeans

D Fearon

From

From

MEMORANDUM.

From

Standard Oil Company of New York.

SHANGHAI, Oct 26 1900.

To Jas L Fearon Esq

My dear Fearon! Regarding your request for figures of the Amer. Ter. oil Trade, I find that the Shai deliveries (a fair criterion of the exports) have fallen off nearly 30% during the last ten months as compared with the same period of last year. The decrease is particularly noticeable during the past five

MEMORANDUM.

From

Standard Oil Company of New York.

SHANGHAI, 1900.

To

months. I broke this statement will answer your purpose and assure you I should be only too glad to give you an exhibit of figure but my position is such at this time that I do not consider it best for me to do so. Shall be glad in the future to give you any statistics that will be of interest to or aid us any way our mutual interests. Yours truly Robt H Hume

which 5

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF IMPORTS AND RE-EXPO

SHEWING PRINCIPAL I

——	1898.			1897.		
	Drills.	Sheetings.	Jeans.	Drills.	Sheetings.	Jeans.
Total Import at Shanghai (in pieces)	1,212,046	2,349,865	103,600	1,476,746	2,447,808	69,000
	all kinds 3,665,541				3,993,554	
Total Re-export from Shanghai	1,519,635	2,995,627	109,295	1,312,273	2,261,362	70,295
	all kinds 4,624,557				3,643,930	
Re-exports to Tientsin	669,175	1,732,220	68,670	510,878	1,218,055	44,915
„ Newchwang	346,670	586,373	11,165	343,690	517,057	800
„ Chefoo	166,583	530,542	8,940	142,955	428,640	5,030
Total Re-exports to 3 Northern Ports	1,182,428	2,849,135	88,775	997,523	2,163,752	50,745
	all kinds 4,120,338				3,212,020	
	=89% of total				=88% of total	
Re-exports to Chinkiang	57,735	9,370	...	71,135	7,465	...
„ Wuhu	9,770	1,280	...	6,210	40	...
„ Kiukiang	7,590	2,260	...	5,411	335	...
„ Hankow	188,275	14,195	...	167,470	2,965	...
Total Re-exports to 4 Yangtze Ports	263,370	27,105	...	250,226	10,805	...
	all kinds 290,475				261,031	
	=6¼% of total				=7⅛% of total	

NOTES.—In the latter half of 1895 business at Newchwang was m

December 31st, 1896.—Heavy stocks (estimated at 1,

„ 31st, 1897.— „ („ 1,

„ 31st, 1898.—The stock carried forward wa

Compiled from Messrs. NOËL, MURRAY & Co.'s tables, based on Customs' Returns.

PORTS AT SHANGHAI OF AMERICAN COTTON GOODS,

L DISTRIBUTING MARKETS.

	1896.			1895.			1894.		
ns.	Drills.	Sheetings.	Jeans.	Drills.	Sheetings.	Jeans.	Drills.	Sheetings.	Jeans.
,000	1,248,287	2,316,912	55,000	592,378	830,123	22,000	740,634	1,256,182	26,000
		3,620,199			1,444,501			2,022,816	
,295	1,014,041	1,618,815	52,765	630,265	1,025,322	23,940	611,603	1,007,840	27,460
		2,685,621			1,679,527			1,646,903	
,915	417,371	1,022,115	38,475	344,237	700,561	16,370	287,931	701,088	22,620
800	232,700	354,430	540	59,880	127,670	260	128,330	265,670	...
,030	92,020	218,555	3,675	57,765	154,210	2,100	47,205	87,030	1,060
,745	742,091	1,595,100	42,690	461,882	982,441	18,730	463,466	1,053,788	23,680
		2,379,881			1,463,053			1,540,934	
		=88½% of total			=87% of total			=93½% of total	
.	42,170	9,935	...	44,786	4,365	...	19,585	4,835	...
.	5,330	20	...	4,512	...	...	2,790	60	...
.	4,460	80	...	2,970	210	...	1,470	60	...
.	166,885	1,600	...	67,455	776	...	78,300	320	...
.	218,845	11,635	...	119,723	5,351	...	102,145	5,275	...
		230,480			125,074			107,420	
		=8½% of total			=7½% of total			=6½% of total	

as much restricted by the war with Japan, that port being in Japanese occupation.

at 1,339,000 pieces, all kinds) were carried over into 1897.

1,305,000 „) „ „ 1898.

was estimated at 306,000 pieces.

With WISNER & Co.'s Compliments.

Shanghai, February, 1899.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF IMPORTS AND RE-EXPO

SHEWING PRINCIPAL

	1907.			1906			1905.		
	Shells	Shootings	Jeans	Shells	Shootings	Jeans	Shells	Shootings	Jeans
Total Import at Shanghai (in pieces)	1,272,040	1,310,805	109,600	1,479,746	1,447,803	69,000			
	all kinds 3,005,541			all kinds 3,003,554					
Total Re-export from Shanghai	1,189,655	1,304,017	100,205	1,332,113	1,210,245	70,105			
	all kinds 4,611,857			all kinds 3,613,230					
Re-exports to Tientsin	660,175	1,712,220	68,670	520,870	1,318,055	44,015			
„ Newchwang	346,670	568,313	11,165	213,600	513,157	Nil			
„ Chefoo	166,583	81,541	6,040	114,055	118,040	Small			
Total Re-exports to Northern Ports	1,173,428	2,362,074	85,715	848,525	1,949,252	44,015			
	all kinds 3,120,178			all kinds 3,212,030					
	=80% of total			=88% of total					
Re-exports to Chinkiang	51,135	9,310	...	71,135	7,405	...			
„ Wuhu	9,170	1,780	...	6,210	40	...			
„ Kiukiang	7,590	2,080	...	5,411	655	...			
„ Hankow	188,975	14,905	...	167,470	2,065	...			
Total Re-exports to 4 Yangtze Ports	256,870	27,105	...	250,226	10,805	...			
	all kinds 370,475			all kinds 361,031					
	=69% of total			=72% of total					

NOTES.—In the latter half of 1905 business at Newchwang, Ta

December 31st, 1906.—Heavy stock (estimated 4m

" 31st, 1907. " "

" 31st, 1908.—The stock carried forward

Compiled from Messrs. Nösel, Hussmann & Co.'s tables, based on Customs' Returns.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 3 1900
BUREAU.

No.17.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

Shanghai, China, October 27th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

To Secy to President
To Secy of War
Rec'd. Dec. 15.

Sir.-

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a communication addressed to me by the American Association of China giving its views (1) on the recent appointments of reactionist officials in important positions in the central and southern provinces, (2) on the necessity of the Emperor's return to Peking, (3) on the Imperial Edict of September 25th., (See my No.9.), (4) expressing the Association's belief that the Imperial Government intends to endeavor to renew hostilities with the Powers.

I have also sent a copy of the communication in question to our Minister at Peking.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States commissioner.

One enclosure.

The American Association of China

Telegraphic Address: "AMASCH" SHANGHAI
WESTERN UNION CODE

OFFICERS:
President:
Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott
Vice-President:
J. F. Seaman
Secretary:
V. G. Lyman
Treasurer:
Frank P. Ball

Shanghai October 23.1900.

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

U. S. Commissioner to China,

SIR;

Being strongly impressed with the critical situation, and the unsatisfactory nature of the attitude presented by the Chinese government at this time, the Committee of this Association desires to present its views with reference to the following matters which we trust will appear to you to be of sufficient importance to warrant the transmission of the substance thereof to the State Department by telegraph.

1- This Committee most strongly deplores the appointment, to high and important government positions in the central and southern provinces, of reactionary men who have given the strongest evidence of their sympathies with the whole Boxer movement and uprising, and who are thus appointed not only to counteract the influence of the friendly provincial officials from the Viceroys down, but for the purpose of eventually

The American Association in China

Telegraphic Address: "AMASCH" SHANGHAI
WESTERN UNION CODE

Shanghai October 25,1900.

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

U. S. Commissioner to China,

SIR,

Being strongly impressed with the critical situation,and the unsatisfactory nature of the attitude presented by the Chinese Government at this time, the Committee of this Association desires to present its views with reference to the following matters which we trust will appear to you to be of sufficient importance to warrant the transmission of the substance thereof to the State Department by telegraph.

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The American Association China

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WESTERN UNION CODE

Shanghai

nciting the people throughout this whole district to a renewed
prising, of vastly increased magnitude, against the powers.

3- Believing that the isolation of the Court at Si-ngan-fu means
dangerous delay in the conduct of negotiations, and the impossibility
f bringing them to a satisfactory conclusion; we represent that strong
easures should be employed to enable the Emperor to escape from the
angerous influences of the reactionaries by whom he is surrounded, and
o facilitate his return to Peking, or to such other place where he may
e accessible to the foreign representatives.

3- We would most strongly urge and represent that the Imperial
dict denouncing Prince Tuan and others high in rank, is both insincere
nd meaningless; that it was issued merely in an attempt to delude
he powers and without the slightest intention that it should be
arried out.

4- We sincerely believe that every function of the central

...uniting the people throughout this whole district to a renewed ...rising, of vastly increased magnitude, against the Powers.

2- Believing that the isolation of the Court at Si-ngan-fu means ... dangerous delay in the conduct of negotiations, and the impossibility ... of bringing them to a satisfactory conclusion; we represent that strong ...measures should be employed to enable the Emperor to escape from the ...dangerous influences of the reactionaries by whom he is surrounded, and ...to facilitate his return to Pekin, or to such other place where he may ...be accessible to the foreign representatives.

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The American Association in China

OFFICERS:
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Treasurer:
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Telegraphic Address: "AMASCH" SHANGHAI
WESTERN UNION CODE

Shanghai

overnment is now being employed with a view of renewing the movement gainst the foreigners in the near future; that it is fighting for time ith the hope that by next spring the whole empire will act as a unit n a final attempt to drive out the foreigner.

I have the honor to be

SIR

Yours very respectfully.

V. G. Lyman

Secretary

F. T. M. 3.

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ith the hope that by next spring the whole empire will act as a unit
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I have the honor to be

SIR

Your very respectfully.

No. 431

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 14 1900
BUREAU.

Code file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
13 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

Secretary of State
DEC 13 1900

October 27th, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Received Dec. 15

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of 26th. instant. First formal discussion terms of settlement by foreign Ministers. Eleven officials most responsible. Their death demanded.

No. 431

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 27th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my cipher telegram of the 26th instant, and to say that on yesterday the several Foreign Ministers met to formally begin the discussion of terms of a settlement to be presented to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. Each had been instructed that all the Powers had agreed substantially or in principle with the French propositions, and as the question of punishments was the first of these, it was the first taken up. After much discussion it was unanimously decided that the punishment of death should be demanded for eleven officials whom it is agreed by all Foreign Ministers and Chinese Government are chiefly responsible for the crimes committed, to-wit: Princes Tuan and Chwang I (Pu Ching) Tai Lien and Tsai Ying, Duke Lan, Tung Fu-hsiang, Yu Hsien, Kang I, Chiao Chi Chiao, Ying Nien. The manner of their death was much discussed, but it is believed

believed that, whatever we demanded, most of them would either voluntarily or by Imperial order commit suicide, and so we simply say "death". I have today received a note from Li Hung-chang, which I enclose, informing me that Kang I had died and that Governor Yu Hsien had taken his own life by swallowing gold leaf.

The details that come to us of the horrible murder and mutilation of our missionaries in the interior are so frightfully shocking, that less severe punishment cannot be asked, and I believe the Chinese Government are so impressed by the terrible results of their efforts to get rid of the foreigners, that they will readily accede to our demand, unless the Court is held in the power of those who are to be thus punished; but whether or no, they should be made to do it and to furnish ample and satisfactory proof of its accomplishment. Provision must also be made for adequate punishment for all provincial and local officials who may be proved to be in any way responsible for or accessory to the crimes.

I enclose copy of my correspondence with Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang regarding the rumored probability of removal of the Yangtze Viceroys.

3

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Enclosures: E. H. Conger,

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Conger to Plenipotentiaries Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang, October 26th, 1900.
2. Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger, October 27th, 1900.
3. Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger, October 27th, 1900.

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

TWENTY-SIXTH. AS ARTICLE ONE IN TREATY THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS UNANIMOUSLY AGREE TO DEMAND AS AN ULTIMATUM DEATH OF THE NINE PERSONS NAMED IN IMPERIAL DECREE MENTIONED IN MY TELEGRAM OF OCTOBER THIRD ADDING TUNG FU-HSIANG AND YU HSIEN AND NAMING OTHERS FOR COMMENSURATE PUNISHMENT WHEN DISCOVERED. DO YOU APPROVE? I ADVISE IT. I HAVE PROTESTED AGAINST REMOVAL YANGTZE VICEROYS OR THE APPOINTMENT OF REACTIONARY OFFICIALS.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

Enclosure No. 1, in Despatch No. 431

.....

Mr. Conger to Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang.

.....

No. 232. Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China, October 26th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

Reports are reaching me from several sources, that reactionary and disturbing officials are being appointed in the Yangtze provinces, that the power of the Viceroys is being thus undermined and the removal of the Viceroys Liu Kun-i and Chang Chih-tung is contemplated. I cannot believe this, for such appointments or removals would be acts most unfriendly toward the foreign powers who are now trying to negotiate a settlement of the troubles which China has unfortunately brought upon herself.

And yet the matter is so important that I am constrained to file a formal and energetic protest against such action, and respectfully request Your Highness and Your Excellency to communicate it to the Emperor by telegraph.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Highness and Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,

Peace Commissioners, etc., etc., etc.

TELEGRAM SENT (CIPHER)

Enclosure No. 1, in Despatch No. 431

SECSTATE,

Mr. Conger to Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang.

WASHINGTON.

No. 525. Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China, October 26th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

Reports are reaching me from several sources, that reactionary and disturbing officials are being appointed in the Yangtze provinces, that the power of the Viceroys is being undermined and the removal of the Viceroys Liu Kun-i and Chang Chih-tung is contemplated. I cannot believe this, for such appointments or removals would be acts most unfriendly toward the foreign powers who are now trying to negotiate a settlement of the troubles which China has unfortunately brought upon herself.

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(Signed) E. H. Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,

and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,

Peace Commissioners, etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 2. in Despatch No. 431

.....

Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

No. 203. Peking, October 27th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We have just received Your Excellency's communication in which you state that reports have been reaching you that reactionary and disturbing officials are being appointed in the Yangtze provinces; that the power of the Viceroys is being undermined and the removal of the Viceroys of the Two Hu province and of Nanking is contemplated, but that you cannot believe this, etc., etc.

In reply, we have the honor to say that it is very evident from Your Excellency's communication that you are sincerely friendly in your intercourse (with us) for which we feel exceedingly grateful.

We would observe, however, that in regard to the two Viceroys- Liang Hu provinces and Nanking- a Decree was recently issued appointing these officers to consult with us in arranging terms of peace, and they are granted the position of Minister Plenipotentiary. The Court certainly relies on the position of these officers, and they certainly have not been removed from their respective posts. Even supposing that the idea of (their removal) emanated from persons who are opposed to them, still the fact of their being high officials of the government would certainly prevent them from venturing to defeat or overthrow them before the very presence of the Throne. We may inform Your Excellency that we have never heard of the reports to which you allude, and even Your Excellency also knows that they certainly not really true.

In sending this communication in reply to Your Excellenc which we beg you will duly take note of, we ask you not to listen to false reports.

To His Excellency, Edwin H. Conger,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 2. in Despatch No. 431

.....

Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

No. 203. Peking, October 27th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We have just received Your Excellency's communication in which you state that reports have been reaching you that reactionary and disturbing officials are being appointed in the Yangtze provinces; that the power of the Viceroys is being undermined and the removal of the Viceroys of the Two Hu provinces and of Nanking is contemplated, but that you cannot believe this, etc., etc.

In reply, we have the honor to say that it is very evident from Your Excellency's communication that you are sincerely friendly in your intercourse (with us) for which we feel exceedingly grateful.

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In sending this communication in reply to Your Excellency which we beg you will duly take note of, we ask you not to listen to false reports.

To His Excellency, Edwin H. Conger,
etc., etc., etc.

Enclosure No. 3. in Despatch No. 431

.....

Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

Private Note. Peking, October 27th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

I beg to inform Your Excellency that I have just received a telegram from the Governor of Shensi, Ts'en, stating that Kang I died on the 18th instant, and that Yu Hsien died by taking poison (lit: swallowing gold). This information is perfectly true. Further, that Prince Tuan is not allowed to accompany the Emperor.

Card of Li Hung-chang with compliments.

Enclosure No. 3 in Despatch No. 431

.....

Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

No. 2031. .....

Private Note. Peking, October 27th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

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Card of Li Hung-chang with compliments.

No.18.

Seen by the Secretary

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
22 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file. aas
DEC 3 1900

Shanghai, China, October 27, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Sevretary of State,

Washington.

Ack'd Dec 8

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 3 1900
BUREAU.

Sir.-

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith what purports to be the translation of an Imperial decree issued on the 13th instant, giving the reasons for the Emperor's flight from Peking and the conditions under which he will return.

The phrase "insist on our performing these things which we cannot do" seems to apply to the much apprehended demands of the Powers for the punishment of the Dowager Empress.

The decree, as here given, is genuine. Of this I have no doubt. You will note that the Yang-tze Viceroys in their conversations with me argured on the lines given in the decree against the immediate return of the Emperor. It may be that this decree was in their hands at the time or that they knew the substance of it.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States commissioner.

One enclosure.

No. 18. Enclosure.

COURT TO RETURN TO PEKING ON CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

We translate the following decree published in the Shênpao yesterday morning, purporting to have been issued on the 13th inst., and received by Prince Ch'ing and Li Hung-chang at Peking on the 21st idem :—

We have received the memorials of Liu K'un-yi and others praying that when matters become settled the Court shall return and that a decree be issued beforehand informing all of this purpose. With regard to the present troubles, originating in hostilities between Boxers and converts, it having transpired that there was great difficulty in suppressing them, the disturbances became so widespread that they created war with our neighbouring countries and finally so disturbed the Court that we were compelled to escort H. I. M. the Empress Dowager out of Peking under a rain of bullets and flee in confusion to the West, undergoing much suffering and inconvenience therein. We feel that our Viceroys and Governors when they hear of this cannot possibly bear to think of what we have suffered.

We have already issued a decree accusing ourself of inability to govern properly and we have also denounced the Princes and high Ministers who have failed in their duty and have ordered them to be severely punished therefor, in proportion to their various degrees of guilt. This was because we desired speedy negotiations for peace, in order that we might settle upon an early date for the Court's return. This was necessary to put our empire on a firm basis and calm the hearts of our people. There was indeed no intention of ours to willingly and lightly abandon our capital and selfishly seek peace for ourselves far away.

At present Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang are in Peking with the purpose of opening negotiations for peace with the Ministers of the Foreign Powers, which have not yet, however, begun; while foreign troops hold the various parts of the capital, making it difficult for both officials and well-behaved people to go about at ease. Hence we would ask, how we are to be treated if the Court suddenly returns to Peking? But only let the Foreign Powers show sincerity in their desire for peace, let them not take away our independence of action or forcibly insist on our performing those things which we cannot do, then, as soon as the negotiations are carried out, we will surely issue, on that very day, notice of the day of departure of the Court back to Peking. Our present journey to Hsian was originally intended as a temporary measure, concerning which we have already clearly given due notice by a former decree. This was a step which force of circumstances compelled us to undergo with all its troubles and sufferings to ourselves. And this we feel sure all our officials and people throughout the empire clearly know and sympathise with. Hence we feel surprise that the said memorialists with all their weight of years and experience in governing the empire should not consider these circumstances. It is our earnest hope, therefore, that our Viceroys, etc., carefully guard the frontiers of their several jurisdictions and diligently send us supplies (during our absence from the capital).

Let the above decree be sent at the rate of 600 li a day to Prince Ching, Li Hung-chang, Cho Hô-pu (Tartar General of Szechuan), Shou Yin (Tartar General of Canton), Ch'ang En (Tartar General of Hangchow), Shan Lien (Tartar General of Foochow), Liu K'un-yi, Chang Chih-tung, Hsü Ying-k'uei, Wei Kuang-tao, Tê Shou, Yü Yin-lin, Yü Lien-san, Yuan Shih-kai, Liu Shu-tang, Wang Chih-ch'un, Nieh Chih-kuei, and Shêng Hsüan-huai.

W. C. No. 22. 01

North China Daily News
of Oct. 1900.

No.17.

Sent by Taylor

DIPLOMATIC, DEC 3 1900 COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA. BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY, Ack and file. DEC 3 1900

INDEX BUREAU REC'D 3 DEC 1900 DEPT. OF STATE

ShangHai, China, October 28th, 1900

Rec'd Dec. 5

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir.-

I have the honor to confirm as follows my telegram to you of yesterday's date.-

"Twenty seventh. Have reliable information to the effect that Yu Hsien commited suicide twenty second."

This information was wired yesterday to Sheng Taotei by Viceroy Chang Chih--tung, and is, therefore, I think, reliable.

In this connection I may state that I have been informed by various Chinese officials, and seen it also mentioned in the native press, that Prince Tuan and Prince Chuang have not accompanied the Court to Hsi-an Fu but have remained, whether by Imperial order or not, I do not know, in T'ai-yuan Fu in Shan-hsi,- General Tung Fu-hsiang is said to have left the Court and to have started westward to Kan-su, his native province, accompanied by most of his troops.

Kang-Yi died, I believe without a doubt, a few weeks ago in Shan -hsi, and the Grand Secretary Hsü Tung has committed suicide. Yung Lu is with the Court.

It is also reported, but on insufficient grounds, that the heir apparent Pu Chum, Prince Tuan's son, is dead.

It is thought that it will be more difficult to secure the person of Tung Fu-hsiang than that of any bther of the guilty officials, on account of the devotion of his troops to him. The capital punishment of Prince Tuan will not probably meet with the great opposition foreigners have been led

to expect.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockwell

United States Commissioner.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 1900
BUREAU.

Secretary of State.
NOV 13 1900

From Peking,

October 28, 1900.

Received via Taku, 7.35 AM

October 29, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-eight. Shall we demand indemnity for Chinese Christians? Russian Minister strongly opposes.

C O N G E R

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

October 29, 9.11 AM, *190* , *M.*

No. 432

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 13 1900
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
13 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

October 30th, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegram of 22nd instant and my reply of 24th in regard to return of Emperer to Peking.

No. 432

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, the Department's telegram of the 22nd instant, in regard to the return of the Emperor to Peking, and my reply thereto of the 24th instant,

... ...

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.(CIPHER)

CONGER,

PEKING.

22ND. THROUGH THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR WE HAVE LEARNED OF LI'S ASSURANCE THAT THE EMPEROR WILL SOON RETURN TO PEKING AND SUGGESTING RETURN OF THE SUMMER PALACE WHICH IS FAVORED BY MINISTERS OF ITALY AND AUSTRIA. HAVE YOU ANY CONFIDENCE. WOULD ANY STEPS WHICH WOULD TEND TO REINSTATE THE IMPERIAL AUTHORITY AFFORD SUFFICIENT GUARANTEE FOR THE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF AN EFFECTIVE SETTLEMENT.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

TWENTY-FOURTH. LI SAYS EMPEROR HAS GIVEN NO INTIMATION OF RETURNING AND NO ONE CAN SPEAK FOR HIM. WE MAY HAVE TO ACCEPT RESTORED ORDER AND PUNISHMENT OF DESIGNATED LEADERS AS SUFFICIENT PROOF OF IMPERIAL AUTHORITY WITHOUT HIS EARLY RETURN.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

No. 433

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

To Sec. of War Dec. 11, 1900

Thurs Dec 20

October 30th, 1900.

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject:- Application for Lieutenant Reeves appointment as military attache at this Legation.

No. 433

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 11 1900
BUREAU.

Copy & Copyist Dec 11, 1900. Asst Adjutant General

October 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

The present and prospective work of this Legation needs and will amply justify the presence of a young, intelligent and active military attaché.

Lientenant J.H.Reeves, 2nd Cavalry, of General Wilson's staff, is just such a man and his service would be very valuable to me at this time.

I shall therefore be greatly pleased and obliged if you will kindly ask the Secretary of War to so assign him by telegraph.

Colonel John S. Mallory, who, in connection with his special duties in the South, is conveniently named as military attaché, of the Legation, is I believe, at present, at Hong Kong and could not reach here until next spring.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

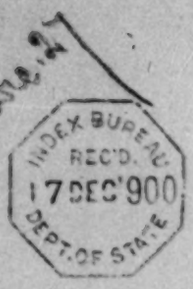
Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

No. 434

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

Rec'd Dec 28.



October 30th, 1900.



Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Instructions No. 271. of August 29th, last. Telegram dated July 29th was not sent from this Legation.

No. 434

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, DC.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your instruction No. 271 of August 29th last, confirming all telegrams that passed between the Department and myself from July 11th and August 29th, 1900., and to say that the telegram dated July 29th was not sent by me or from this Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

No. 435

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 22 1900
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
ade file
DEC 18 1900

Legation of the United States of America
Pekin, China.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
17 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

October 30th, 1900.

Rec'd Dec. 29

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegram of 28th instant.

Payment of Indemnities to Native Christians.

No. 435

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

October 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D . C .

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my telegram of the 28th. To make the Chinese Government indemnify native Christians for wrongs to their persons and property by the "Boxer" movement, the responsibility for which the Imperial Government practically acknowledges, would be a most humane act, and would give to missionary work great prestige for the future; but it would open up an almost limitless field of investigation, and I am of the opinion that if the missionary societies are adequately indemnified for their mission as well as their personal property, and commensurate punishment exacted for guilty or negligent officials, that it will be going far enough.

The missionaries can themselves settle many of the losses

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losses of their native Christians with the villagers where the losses have occurred. In fact, in some places the head men of some localities have already proposed to rebuild the chapels and missionary residences destroyed.

After much discussion, the Ministers have all agreed that indemnity should be demanded for the losses of all Chinese who were during the recent trouble in the employ of foreigners.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. H. Conger

6k a.a.a.

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

PEKING, OCTOBER 28, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

28th. SHALL WE DEMAND INDEMNITY

FOR CHINESE CHRISTIANS. RUSSIAN MINISTER STRONGLY OPPOSE

CONGER.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking, Nobember 1,

Received via Taku, 1.40 P.M.

November 3, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

November first. Your cipher telegram October 29 received. Chinese Government has formally acknowledged criminal responsibility of the eleven persons named. My colleagues all agree that it would greatly weaken our case and jeopardize negotiations should Chinese Government be asked the punishment it proposed to inflict. Besides punishment of leaders, Foreign Ministers have so far unanimously agreed to the following:

First, prohibition of the importation of arms at the discretion of the Powers.

Second, suppression of civil and military examinations in criminal districts for two years, and decreeing death punishment future members boxer organizations.

Third, indemnities for Governments, societies, individual foreigners, and Chinese employed by.

*Ciphered by*_____

_____, *190* , *M.*

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From

Conger - 2

Fourth, Legations shall have the right to establish permanent guards; to put Legation quarters in a state of defence; and to occupy certain points to assure free communication between the Capital and the sea.

Fifth, destruction of Taku and other forts which might interfere with such communication.

Sixth, substitution Minister for Foreign Affairs for Tsungli Yamen.

Seventh, court ceremonials similar to European countries.

Other questions are still under discussion. We intend to meet Chinese Plenipotentiaries when here. We shall have agreed, and present conditions as a whole. Do you approve?

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

November 3, 2.54 PM 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

DIPLOMATIC,

DEC 29 1900

From Peking, via Taku, Nov. 1, 1900.

November 3, 1900.

Received 3.45 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

November first. Paoting expedition has returned. Chaffee will telegraph particulars.

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

November 3, 9.27 AM , 190 , M.

No. 436

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 18 1900.
BUREAU.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
DEC 18 1900

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
17 DEC 900
DEPT. OF STATE

November 2nd, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Progress of Peace Negotiations. Measures guaranteeing future protection of missionaries will not be favorably considered by Russian and Japanese Ministers. Proposed edict subjecting all officials to removal in case of infraction of treaties opposed by Russian Minister. Return of Court to Peking not probable for some time.

No. 436

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 2nd, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that the Foreign Representatives are making some progress toward an agreement upon general proposition for a settlement, as you have already learned from my telegrams. We shall continue to strive to agree upon all essential points before presenting any to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries.

There are however some very important questions upon which an agreement is going to be difficult and doubtful. For instance, measures guaranteeing the future protection of missionaries will not be favorably considered by the Russian Minister, and if sufficiently severe to be effective, the approval of the Japanese Minister is not certain. If we are to have their active suppport we must not employ the word "missionary", but use the word "foreigner" so as to include them.

On

On the 31st ultimo, I proposed the following:

"For a further guaranty against future trouble "an Imperial Edict shall be issued and published everywhere "in the Empire making all Viceroyal, Provincial and local "officials responsible for order in their respective jurisdictions, "and whenever anti-foreign disturbances or any other treaty "infractions occur therein, which are not forthwith suppressed "and the guilty persons punished, they, the said officials, "shall be immediately removed and forever prohibited from "holding any office or receiving any official honor."

This was heartily agreed to by all of my colleagues except the Russian Minister, and while he does not say no, yet I am sure it is the missionary protection which he sees in it that impels his objection. However I shall continue to discreetly press it to the end; because there will be no safety for missionaries or native converts in the interior without some such provision.

There has heretofore been little trouble in securing removal of minor officials, but the removal, except in rare cases, of those of high grades, has been impossible. And even when it has been done, they have been very soon thereafter appointed elsewhere or honored and promoted. The case of Yu Hsien, Governor of Shantung and Shansi, is in point.

In

In regard to the return of the Emperor, Prince Ching, Li Hung-chang and other prominent Chinese, think it not possible for the Court to return here, as long as a large force of troops remain. They will not come until they can be allowed at least to control and police the city and vicinity. Besides the weather will soon be too inclement for them to travel. So that the probability is that we shall not see them until Spring.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 437

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy to War Dept.
(By direction of the Secy.)
Ack. DEC 18 1900

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
17 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

November 3rd, 1900

War and Navy
To War Dept. Dec. 20 1900

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 18 1900
BUREAU.

Subject: Burial of U. S. Marines and soldiers in English, Russian and American Legations. What disposition should be made of bodies?

1644.

No. 437

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 3rd, 1900.

To The Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Seven U. S. Marines, who were killed here during the siege, are buried in the Russian Legation, and I have promised the Russian Minister that at some convenient time the bodies shall be removed. The reason they were buried there, was because when the first two were killed our legation was so exposed to the fire of the enemy that their burial here was impossible, and as the others were killed, I thought best to have them altogether.

I write to ascertain, whether or not the Government expects to take them home for burial, as has been done from Cuba and the Philippines. If not, I shall make arrangements to bury them in the English Cemetery, just outside the city; or, if our Government provides a legation of our own, which must be done if a permanent guard is to be kept here,

here, it would be far better to bury those who fell in the siege, in a convenient place in the legation, and erect a suitable monument to their memory, which would be not only a constant reminder to those who come after us, of the unparalleled events, but a perpetual warning against their recurrence. I will be pleased to receive early instructions upon the matter, and some authorization to draw for the necessary expense.

Captain Riley and six enlisted men, who were killed August 15th, are buried in this legation, where they can remain, if necessary, but there is not room for others in this small compound. Some have been buried near the camp occupied by General Chaffee's forces, and there will no doubt be others. I therefore suggest that some arrangement be made to join with the British, and either purchase a part of their cemetery tract, or make the whole an international cemetery.

It is possible this can be more easily arranged through the War Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 438

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 19 1900
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
17 DEC 900
DEPT OF STATE

Cited by telegram Dec. 19.

Copies sent by Mr. Dean to Committee on For. Rel. and For. Affairs, Jan. 11, 1901.

November 3rd, 1900.

Recd Dec. 21

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Proposed Extension Legation Grounds. Action of other Powers.

No: 438

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 3rd, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that in view of the probability of keeping large legation grounds in the future, and because of the general desire on the part of all the European Representatives to have extensive legations, all of the ministers are taking possession of considerable areas adjoining their legations; property belonging either to the Chinese Government, or to private citizens, and having been abandoned by the owners during the siege; with the intention to claim them as conquest, or possibly credit something for them on their account for indemnity.

I have as yet not taken formal possession of any ground for this purpose, nor shall I without instructions; but I shall not, for the present, permit any of the owners or other persons to re-occupy any of the property between this legation and the canal to the east of it. While this area

will

No: 438

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 3rd, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that in view of the probability of keeping large legation grounds in the future, and because of the general desire on the part of all the European Representatives to have extensive legations, all of the ministers are taking possession of considerable area adjoining their legations; property belonging either to the Chinese Government, or to private citizens, and having been abandoned by the owners during the siege; with the intention to claim them as conquest, or possibly credit something for them on their account for indemnity.

I have as yet not taken formal possession of any ground for this purpose, nor shall I without instructions; but I shall not, for the present, permit any of the owners or other persons to re-occupy any of the property between this legation and the canal to the east of it. While this area

will

will be very small in comparison with the other legations, yet it will be sufficient to make both the legation personnel and the guard very comfortable, and will better comport with our traditional simplicity vis-a-vis the usual magnificence of other representatives.

It is proposed to designate the boundaries of a legation quarter, which shall include all the legations, and then demand the right to put that in a state of defence when necessary, and to prohibit the residence of Chinese there, except by permission of the ministers. If, therefore, these ideas as to guards, defence, etc, are to be carried out, a larger legation will be an absolute necessity. In fact it is impossible now to accommodate the legation and staff in our present quarters without most inconvenient crowding.

There are no public properties inside the legation quarter which we could take as a legation. All the proposed property to be added as above mentioned to our legation, is private ground, except a very small temple in the South-east corner; and, I presume under our policy, if taken, will be paid for, either to the Chinese owners, or credited

credited upon account against the Chinese Government for indemnity, although I suspect most of the other Governme nts will take their's as a species of conquest.

The plat of ground, adjoining and lying to the east of the legation, to which I have made reference, is about the size of the premises now occupied by us.

I shall be glad to receive such instructions as you may be pleased to give.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 6 1900
BUREAU.

Dip Bureau
Received Nov. 5 1900
Referred Nov. 5 1900

3rd. ASST. SECRETARY
NOV 4 1900

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

CB 1 U WA 18 Govt.

Taku, Rec'd November 4, 1900.

SecState,

Washington.

I request authority to temporarily employ clerk and consequent increase contingent allowance one hundred monthly.

Conger.

8:08 A.M.

DIPLOMATIC.

NOV 6 TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DEPT. OF STATE

Collect Day Letter

Tuka, Nov'd November 4, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

I request authority to temporarily employ clerk and messenger increase contingent allowance one hundred monthly.

Conger.

9:09 A.M.

No. 439

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 17 1900
BUREAU

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
17 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

November 4th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's telegrams of October 29th and 30th, and Legation's of November 1st. Proposed ultimatum Chinese Government for punishment guilty persons named in edict September 25th, and others. Indemnities to be paid Chinese Christians.

No. 439

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 4th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, Department's telegrams of October 29th and 30th and my two telegrams of November 1st,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED.

WASHINGTON, 29TH OCTOBER, 1900.

CONGER, PEKING.

TWENTY NINTH. YOURS 26TH RECEIVED. THE PRESI-
DENT THINKS THAT BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PROPOSED ULTIMATUM
CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT THE MINISTERS HAV
INDUBITABLE EVIDENCE OF THE GUILT OF THE NINE PERSONS NAMED
IN THE EDICT AND OTHERS, AND IT SHOULD BE LEARNED FROM THAT
GOVERNMENT THE PUNISHMENT IT PROPOSES TO INFLICT UPON THEM.
IF SUCH PUNISHMENT BE INADEQUATE FURTHER ACTION TO SECURE C
PLIANCE WITH JUSTIFIABLE DEMANDS CAN BE CONSIDERED AND
DETERMINED.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

WASHINGTON, 31 OCTOBER, 1900.

CONGER, PEKING.

THIRTIETH. REGARDING CHINESE CHRISTIANS NO
TECHNICALLY UNDER OUR PROTECTION PEREMPTORY DEMAND SHOULD BE
MADE FOR SECURING THEIR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND RIGHTS AND FU
GUARANTEES IN THE FUTURE AS WELL AS EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT O
THOSE WHO HAVE WRONGED THEM. TO THIS WE ARE COMMITTED BY
EXISTING TREATY. PERIOD. IF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS INCLI
TO ALLOW THEM COMPENSATION FOR THEIR LOSSES AND SUFFERINGS
IT SHOULD BE ACCEPTED AS AN EVIDENCE OF DESIRE TO MAKE ALL
DUE

DUE REPARATION AND YOU WILL USE EVERY ENDEAVOR TO PROMOTE SUCH A RESULT.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

TELEGRAMS SENT.

PEKING? NOVEMBER 1ST, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

PAOTINGFU EXPEDITION HAS RETURNED. CHAFFEE WILL TELEGRAPH PARTICULARS.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

.....

PEKING, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

NOVEMBER 1ST. YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM OCTOBER 29TH RECEIVED. CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGED CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ELEVEN PERSONS NAMED. MY COLLEAGUES ALL AGREE THAT IT WOULD GREATLY WEAKEN OUR CASE AND JEOPARDIZE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD CHINESE GOVERNMENT BE ASKED THE PUNISHMENT IT PROPOSED TO INFLICT. PERIOD. BESIDES PUNISHMENT OF LEADERS THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE SO FAR UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING. FIRST, PROHIBITION OF THE IMPORTATION

OF

OF IMPORTATION OF ARMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE POWERS.
SECOND, SUPPRESSION OF CIVIL AND MILITARY EXAMINATIONS IN CRIM
INAL DISTRICTS FOR TWO YEARS AND DECRREING DEATH PUNISHMENT
IES
FUTURE MEMBERS BOXER ORGANIZATIONS. THIRD, INDEMNIT A FOR
GOVERNMENTS, SOCIETIES, INDIVIDUAL FOREIGNERS AND CHINESE
EMPLOYED BY FORRIGNERS. FOURTH, LEGATIONS SHALL HAVE THE
RIGHT TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT GUARDS, PUT LEGATION QUARTER
IN A STATE OF DEFENSE AND OCCUPY CERTAIN POINTS TO ASSURE
FREE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE CAPITAL AND THE SEA. FIFTH.
DESTRUCTION OF TAKU AND OTHER PORTS WHICH MIGHT INTERFERE
WITH SUCH COMMUNICATION. SIXTH. SUBSTITUTION MINISTER FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR TSUNGLI YAMEN. SEVENTH. COURT CEREMONIALS
SIMILAR TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. OTHER QUESTIONS STILL UNDER
DISCUSSION. WE INTEND TO MEET CHINESE PLENIPOTENTIAR IES
WHEN WE SHALL HAVE AGREED AND PRESENT CONDITIONS AS A WHOLE.
DO YOU APPROVE.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 13 19[illegible]0
BUREAU.

From Peking, November [illegible], 1900.
Received, via Taku, 11 P. M.
November 7, 1900.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

November sixth.

All Ministers have agreed that provision for suitable reparation for murder of ~~Baron~~ Baron von Ketteler should be made in general treaty. All except Russian and French agree to the following:

First. The Chinese Government should undertake to negotiate hereafter for the requisite amendment of the commercial treaties, and other subjects relating to commerce and navigation, on lines which it may seem convenient for the foreign Powers to propose.

Second. The Chinese Government shall undertake such financial measures as the foreign Powers may indicate, to guarantee the payment of an indemnity and the interest on Government loans.

Third. For a further guarantee against future troubles, an Imperial edict shall be issued and published everywhere

[illegible]hered by _____

_____, 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From

Conger - 2

in the Empire, making all Viceroyal, provincial and local officials responsible for order in their respective jurisdictions, and whenever anti-foreign disturbances or any other treaty infractions occur therein which are not forthwith suppressed and the guilty persons punished, the said officials shall be immediately removed and forever prohibited from holding office or receiving official honors.

All these are very important, and, I believe, should be insisted upon, even if separate convention with the Powers agreeing should be necessary.

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

Nov. 8, 10.22 A.M., *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

Beijing, November 8, 1900.

Received, 4:15 p.m.

November 7, 1900.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Dowager - 2

In the Empire, making all Viceroys, provincial and local officials responsible for order in their respective jurisdictions, and whenever anti-foreign disturbances or any other treaty infractions occur therein which are not promptly repressed and the guilty persons punished, the said officials shall be immediately removed and forever prohibited from holding office or receiving official honors.

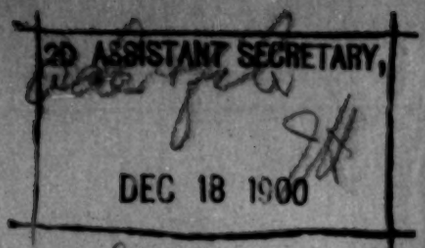
All these are very important, and I believe, should be insisted upon, even if hopeless communication with the Powers expected should be necessary.

[illegible]

No. 440

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.





Also copy to Secy of War for his information.

November 6th, 1900.

Noted and To Navy Dept Dec. 19

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Protest of Li Hung Chang against misconduct of foreign troops belonging to Paoting-fu Expedition. Action of Foreign Representatives.

No. 440

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 6th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of a note received from His Excellency Li Hung Chang, which, in view of the recent savage conduct and brutal murders committed by the Chinese in the very localities where he now complains of the foreign soldiers, comes with very poor grace. Some of my colleagues, receiving the same note, consider it insulting, and, because of its personal tone and the criminal charges made against their soldiers, those having troops in the expedition name d, are returning the note to the writer. In my judgment the note is rather insolent, but since none of our troops took part in the Paoting-fu expedition, I have concluded to take no notice of it, not even replying to it. My Russian Colleague is treating it in the same way. Those having troops in the expedition

and

and returning the note, are the British, French, German and Italian Ministers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. Conger

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 440

.....

Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

No. 204 Peking, November 4th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that I have received the following petition from the Magistrates of the Departments and Districts of Wan Ping, Liang Hsiang, Ting Hsing, Lai Shui, I Chou, An Su, Pao Ting and Ching Wan:

"The country adjacent to the high road between Peking and Pao Ting-the provincial capital- is naturally poor. Recently on account of the foreign troops having moved over this road, traders have fled and the inns have been closed. The literati and gentry have done their best to supply the wants of the soldiers, but in spite of this they have been stealing cattle, pigs, sheep, etc, and have outraged women and girls. Soldiers that have been stationed on the road for some length of time have from time to time made visits to the neighboring Departments and Districts and even to the Hills for the purpose of reconnoitring, and although means have been devised to supply their wants, still it has been impossible for the country people to escape being annoyed. The farmers have left their abodes in fright, the traders have stopped business and the people generally find great difficulty in living in peace and quiet and obtaining means of support. Further, christians, under pretence of seeking to capture "Boxers", burn villages and defraud and frighten the law abiding people. The "Boxer" rebels have long since fled, but now the peaceable people are suffering, as for instance take the case of the christians of the An village in the district of An Su, where every day from 30 to 40 and even 300 to 400 of them arm themselves and go to various villages and there defraud and plunder the people. The result is that traveling has ceased and the condition of the country is in a distressed state. At present terms of peace have not been concluded, and the foreign troops have not been withdrawn; trouble may, therefore, unexpectedly arise

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 440

.....

Li Hung-chang to Mr. Conger.

.....

No. 204 Peking, November 4th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that I have received the following petition from the Magistrates of the Departments and Districts of Wan Ping, Liang Hsiang, Ting Hsing, Lai Shui, I Chow, An Su, Pao Ting and Ching Wan:

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arise at any time, and if means are not devised to keep the soldiers under restraint, the country for several hundreds of li will become depopulated, in which case the soldiers will have no means of getting fuel and water.

Your petitioners are of the opinion that the foreign Minister cannot fully understand that this condition of things exist, and in submitting this petition, which they feel obliged to do, would state that they have only in mind the responsibility they are charged with over their respective jurisdictions. They leave it to Your Excellency to decide whether or not you will bring to the notice of the foreign ministers, when you have an interview with them, the representations here made, and to request that some means be devised whereby the traders and people living adjacent to the high road may return to their homes and resume their several avocations and thus all may be benefitted thereby."

Having received the above, I have the honor to state to Your Excellency that the representations made in the above petition are certainly well founded. The allied forces came to China from afar, for the express purpose of protecting the foreign ministers and capturing the Boxer banditti. The Boxers have now all fled, but the law abiding people are in great poverty, and the traders have stopped business. It would seem, therefore, that (the conduct of the foreign troops) id in violation of the laws of foreign countries as well as martial law. As to what measures should be taken to restrain the officers and soldiers, so that the traders and people along the high road, may again enjoy peace and trade resumed. I leave to yEmr Excellency to be good enough to bring to the notice of the General Commanding the United States Forces for his action in the premises.

To His Excellency

E. H. Conger.

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under restraint, the country for several hundreds of li will be-
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notice of the General Commanding the United States Forces for
his action in the premises.

To His Excellency

E. H. Conger.

No. 441

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 17 1900
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKING, CHINA,

November 7th, 1900.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
17 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. by Number and File.
DEC 17 1900

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's Telegram of November 3rd, and Department's reply Of November 5th. Employment of clerk at Legation at a salary of One Hundred Dollars (gold) per month.

No. 441

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKING, CHINA.

November 7th, 1900.

To The Honorable,

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the over leaf, my telegram of the third of November, and your reply of the fifth of November, in regard to employment of a clerk at this legation, and to say that pursuant to your instructions, Mr H. G. Coffman, recently in the service of General James H. Wilson, as stenographer, has been engaged at a salary of One Hundred Dollars (gold) per month.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E H Conger

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

I REQUEST AUTHORITY TO TEMPORARIL

E MPLOY CLERK, AND CONSEQUENT INCREASE CONTINGE NT ALLOWA

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS MONTHLY.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

November 3rd, 1900.

WASHINGTON 5TH.

CONGER P,

MINISTER, PEKING.

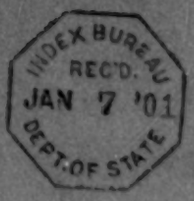
CLERK AUTHORIZED. DRAW

SECSTATE AMOUNT. FURNISH SEPARATE ACCOUNT AND VOUCHE R.

(SIGNED) HAY.

No. 442

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.



November 7th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State:

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's Instructions received during the month of October, 1900.

(Despatch No. 421, October 1st, 1900.)

No. 442

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 7th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 421 of the 1st. ultimo, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions as follows : Nos. 270 to 273, inclusive; unnumbered, September 6th, 6th and 10th; and circulars of July 26th and August 20th, last,

and to be,

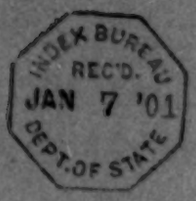
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 443

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.



November 7th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgement of Department's Instructions No. 270, August 24th. 1900. Printed correspondence relating to situation in China.

C No. 443

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 7th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's Instructions No. 270, dated August 24th, 1900, enclosing copy of printed correspondence relating to the situation in China,

and to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 12 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D
12 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

From Peking.

Via Taku, November 11, 1900

Received 8.21 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Can I transfer cipher code 24 Conger?

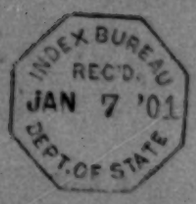
ROCKHILL

phered by the Chief Clerk

November 11, 12.50, *190* , *M.*
PM

No.19.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.



Peking, China, November 12th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm the following cablegram sent you in cipher under date of the 10th instant:-

" Peking, November 10th, 1900.

Secstate,

Washington.

Can I transfer cipher code 24 Conger.

Rockhill."

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No.20.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 8 190
BUREAU.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, November 12th, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack & file.
JAN 8 1901

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Ack'd Jan. 15

Sir:

Having reference to my No.16 of the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose for your information in connection therewith reports made by our Consular representatives in Tientsin and Newchwang on the general condition of affairs in their respective districts.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

Two enclosures.

No. 20.

Peking, Dyer, November 12th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Having referred to my No. 12 of the 29th ultimo, I have now the honor to forward for your information my monthly reports made by our Consular Representatives in Tientsin and Chefoo on the general condition of affairs in their respective districts.

I have, &c.,

Your obedient servant,

Two enclosures.

No. 2, Nov. 12, 1900.

Enclosure 1 in No.20, Mr. Rockhill to Secretary of State.

United States Consulate

Tientsin, October 2. 1900

Hon. W. W. Rockhill,

U.S. Commissioner,

Shanghai,

Sir:-

I have the honor to comply with the direction of Hon. John Goodnow, U.S. Consul General in re report on the general condition of my Consular District. In making such a report you will no doubt realize that it will necessarily be local and not general. Peking, as you are well aware, is solely controlled by the military, with the capture of Tientsin on July 14, it was found that the Chinese Government had elapsed, at least, for the time, hence to avoid the absolute chaos into which things were plunging the city was at once divided among the allies for military occupation. The Americans occupied the South Eastern section, the Japanese the North Eastern section, the British the South Western section, the French the North western section,

and

and the Russians the suburbs East and North of the river. As this method of occupation gave no central authority and left many necessary things impossible, or unprovided for, and as the natives were generally afraid to return to their homes under such arrangements, the Commanding Military and naval officers of the allied forces met together and agreed upon a general scheme for a Provisional Government. Colonels Bauer (British) Vogack, (Russian) and Aoki (Japanese) were chosen as a Council of Military Governors to represent the allied powers. The new Government came into actual working order about August 1. with the following corps of Executive officers. Chief Secretary, Chas. Denby. Jr (American) Chinese secretary, C.D. Tenney. (American) Chief of Police, Captain E.H.C. Mockler. (British) Treasurer, C. Rump. (German) Sanitary officer, Dr A Depasse, (French) Magistrate, W. S. Emens (American). The above six officers are called Heads of Departments, and are of equal rank, with salaries at

£800

£800 per annum each.

The second grade of officers have salaries fixed at £600 per annum. They are the following, Private Secretary to Col. Wogack, G. Kuntzberg (Russian). Private Secretary to Col. Bauer J. B. Eames, (British) Private Secretary to Col. Aoki, S. Komura (Japanese). Assistant Chief Secretary, O. Frantzman (British) Assistant Chief Chinese Secretary, S. Wishigon (Japanese) Adjutant to Chief of Police. P. Bauer, Austrian; Assistant Treasurer and Main Inspector. F. Bommer. (German), Surveyor, N. T. Drake, (American). Other Europeans connected with the Government are the following, H. R. Stewart (British) Chief of Chinese Police and A. N. Watts (British) assistant. Ito (Japanese) Inspector of stations and L. A. Jeanrenaud (French) Sanitary Inspector. The functions of the above offices are in a general way as follows:

The chief Secretary keeps the records of the Council meetings and attends to all official Correspondence other than Chinese. The Chinese Secretary

receives

receives petitions from the people, investigates grievances, issues the Chinese notices and proclamations of the Government, attends to the official Chinese correspondence and acts as Register of Deeds and Contracts. The Chief of Police has charge of the maintenance of order in the City and surrounding villages. He has at his disposal the allied forces, 700 soldier police, and in addition he has organized a force of 400 native police who act with the foreign police, but subordinate to them. The Treasurer has charge of the collection of Taxes and the disbursements of the Expenses of the Government.

The present sources of Revenue are.

1 Licenses on vehicles and boats.

2 Shop Licenses.

3 House Taxes.

4 Octroi.

It is impossible yet to estimate the total revenues, but it is thought that they will prove sufficient for the support of the Government and allow a margin

which

which it is proposed to expend in road and river improvements. To provide for the initial expenses of the Government loans have been made from the Russian, British and Japanese war chests which loans are to be repaid out of the revenues of the Government.

The sanitary officer has charge of the general sanitary arrangements of the City, cleaning of streets, etc..

The magistrate tries civil and criminal cases which are referred to him by the Chief of Police, or by the Chinese Secretary.

The length of continuance of the Provisional Government is a matter which depends upon future developments and cannot be predicted with certainty.

The establishment of the Government was an act of humanity to the Chinese, and was also necessary on account of the foreign interests involved here. The fact that it is thoroughly Cosmopolitan in character is the best guarantee that the territory will not be permanently alienated from Chinese.

The

The Provisional Government has gradually extended control over the towns and villages for from 15 to 20 miles out and have accomplished much good in communities where pillage, riot and murder had become of frequent occurrence. I have, and cannot obtain, no knowledge of civil affairs in towns and cities further away.

As to business prospects it is simply impossible to predict. The Import and Export trade is at almost a standstill, in this immediate vicinity the Chinese are growing cheeky and insolent, they demand four prices for their products and the laborers utterly refuse to work unless paid three times the rates formerly expected. The feeling has become quite prevalent that they have not been sufficiently punished. Unless a firm hand is heed over them trouble in the future is sure to follow.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

James W. Ragsdale

Consul

No. Nov. 12. 1900

Enclosure 2, No. 20, Mr. Rockhill to Secretary of State.

No. 1263 U.S. Consulate at Newchwang
24 October 1900

Mr. Bandinel Vice-Consul

To Mr. Commissioner Rockhill

Subject. Condition of Consular district
— Abstract of Contents —

Present condition deplorable. The Russians have destroyed the local institutions without substituting any other authority outside the towns and other points actually occupied by their forces.

The central Government is responsible for the anti-foreign outbreak, which gathered strength from the popular aversion to the Russians and French.

British (with whom Americans are confounded) and Japanese are popular throughout the territory temporarily administred by Japan in 1895. and in trading marts as this port, Kuichow, and Tsin Chuan tai.

No 1263 | United States Consulate
Newchwang 22 October 1900

Hon: W. W. Rockhill
United States Commissioner
Shanghai

Sir,

In compliance with the instructions contained in your despatch of 7th Ultimo and communicated to me by Mr. Consul General Goodnow;

I have the honor to report as follows.

In other years I have always found the authorities of this port perfectly friendly and prepared to maintain the rights and protect the persons and property of American citizens equally with those of other foreigners. This year also the Taot'ai of the Circuit of Shanhaikwan, which includes this port, Ning Tao by name; did all in his power to protect foreigners, restrain soldiers, and keep away Boxers. It was only after the unprovoked attack on the barracks by Russian soldiers on the 26th July, that his power was weakened, and the Boxers were able to appear openly in the city, and finally to attack the foreign quarter.

The people in the port and the immediate neighbourhood have always been friendly to the British and since 1895 to the Japanese; they hate the Russians and dislike the French; they do not distinguish between the Americans

and

and British (of course the officials do) as though the volume of trade is great the number of individuals is small. The Boxers who attacked us comprised only a few local Chinese, the majority being Boatmen, that is to say people from the North of this province, and from Tientsin.

Speaking generally, the people in the South and South East part of this province, that is the part formerly occupied by Japan, have the same prepossessions and aversions as those of this part and neighbourhood.

At Kaichow however a friendly magistrate was replaced by an anti-foreign official just about the time that troubles commenced: and he issued orders to the headmen of the villages in his district, that they should burn the portions of the railway between adjoining their respective villages. But for these instructions there would probably have been no trouble in that district.

At Haicheng the Magistrate was friendly, but the northern people and troops when they came down destroyed the Missionary property.

At Liaoyang the civil magistrate was friendly but the majority of the people there and from thence northward were bitterly anti-foreign.

In Moukden the Tartar (Governor) General suppressed the edict ordering the extermination of foreigners, for two days to give the missionaries time to escape, and when the Fututung (Deputy lieutenant general) insisted on its being published tried to modify it by offering mercy to all Christians

Christians who would recant. The Futu-
-tung, however, was too strong for him,
led the Boxers and soldiers to attack the
Roman Catholic mission, and afterwards
employed them in destroying the railway
and took the command in Liaoyang.
It is possible that the anti-foreign feeling
in the North, was partly stimulated by
the refugees from the territority leased by
Russia who migrated after the Liu chia
tien massacre of February 1899. That it
existed there can be no doubt. At many
stations the missionaries were entreated
to leave by their converts, who assured
them that they could easily provide
for their own safety, when once the
foreigners disappeared.
On the west side of the river Liao to-
-wards Shihli, great atrocities were
committed at Sin min tien, and at
Kwangning, at both of which places the
officials were anti-foreign. In Kinchow
however and Ichow where the
magistrates were friendly and strong
although the mission property was
damaged and the Christians fined,
they escaped without loss of life
and limb.
In fact throughout the whole of
this consular district, it depended
entirely on the Chinese officials
whether there should or should not
be an outbreak, though even the
strongest and most friendly to
foreigners

foreigners, were handicapped by the fact known to many and surmised by more, that anti-foreign decrees had been issued by the Central Government.

The conclusion is then that the Central Government is primarily responsible for the anti-foreign movement in Manchuria; as none of the officials would have dared to attack foreigners or their protegees without or against the orders of the Throne; and similarly the people would not have moved without the orders or countenance of the local officials.

At present the condition of the district is deplorable, the river is infested with pirates and the land with robbers, whose ranks are swelled by disbanded soldiers.

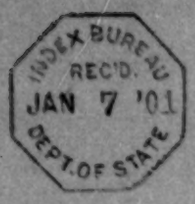
It is to be hoped that the present provisional state of affairs will soon terminate; and that the Russians will either administer the country themselves; or retire and permit the establishment of some other authority. So far they have done little beyond occupying towns, repairing their railway and destroying the homes and property of those villagers who dismantled it.

There are indications however that they will endeavour to clear the river of pirates in compliance with the representations of the consular body.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant
J.J. Fredk Bandinel
Vice-Consul

No. 444

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.



November 12th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgement of Department's Instructions No. 280, September 25th, 1900. Printed copy of Chinese correspondence from July 3rd to September 25th., 1900.

No. 444

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 12th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's Instructions No. 280, dated September 25th, 1900, enclosing printed copy of Chinese correspondence from July 3rd to September 25th, last,

and to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 445

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 8 1901
BUREAU.

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

To War
To Navy
Dis. Jan. 9

November 13th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Forwarding report of Lieutenant Colonel J. S. Mallory, Military Attache, on move ments of Filipina Junta at Hongkong, etc, for transmission to War Department.

No. 445

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 13th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

At the request of J. S. Mallory, Lieutenant Colonel 41st United States Volunteer Infantry, Military Attache, I have the honor to enclose to you herewith, for transmission to the Secretary of War, a report on the movements of the Filipina Junta at Hongkong, with special reference to the purchase and shipment of arms, ammunition, etc, to the Philippines.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure : Report of Lieute nant Col J. S. Mallory, dated October 25th, 1900.

No. 446

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.



November 13th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgement of Department's Instructions No. 274, No. 274, September 12th, 1900. Appointment Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching to represent China in negotiations pending between China and the Powers.

No. 446

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 13th, 1900.

To the Honorable,

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's Instructions, No 274, dated September 12th, 1900, with its enclosure, in reference to the appointment of Earl Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching to represent China in dealing with all questions pending between China and the Powers.

I have the honor to be,

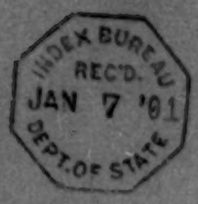
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 447

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



November 14th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging Department's Instructions Nos. 283 and 284, dated October 3rd and 4th, respectively, 1900, enclosing printed correspondence with reference to present situation in China.

(cont'd)

No. 447

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 14th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's Instructions Nos. 283 and 284, dated the 3rd and 4th ultimo, respectively, with enclosures, - copy of printed correspondence in connection with the present situation in China,

and to be,

Sir,

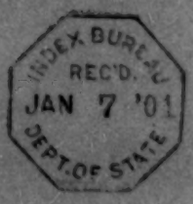
Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 448

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 14th, 1900.



Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Legation's telegrams of 6th and 14th instants, and Department's two telegrams of 9th instant.

No. 448

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 14th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, my tele-
grams of 6th and 14th and Department's two telegrams of the 9th
instants,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

NOVEMBER SIXTH. ALL MINISTERS HAVE AG
THAT PROVISION FOR SUITABLE REPARATION FOR MURDER OF THE
GERMAN MINISTERSHOULD BE MADE IN GENERAL TREATY. ALL
EXCEPT RUSSIAN AND FRENCH AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING: FIRST
THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD UNDERTAKE TO NEGOTIATE HERE
AFTER FOR THE REQUISITE AMENDMENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL TREAT
IES AND OTHER SUBJECTS RELATING TO COMMERCE AND NAVIGATIO
ON LINES WHICH IT MAY SEEM CONVENIENT FOR THE FOREIGN POW
TO PROPOSE. SECOND. THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHALL UNDERTAK
SUCH FINANCIAL MEASURES AS THE FOREIGN POWERS MAY INDICAT
TO GUARANTEE THE PAYMENT OF INDEMNITIES AND THE INTEREST
ON GOVERNMENT LOANS. THIRD. FOR A FURTHER GUARANTY AGAINST
FUTURE TROUBLES AN IMPERIAL EDICT SHALL BE ISSUED AND PUB-
LISHED EVERYWHERE IN THE EMPIRE MAKING ALL VICEROYAL, PRO-
VINCIAL AND LOCAL OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ORDER IN THEIR
RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS AND WHENEVER ANTIFOREIGN DISTURB-
ANCES OR ANY OTHER TREATY INFRACTIONS OCCUR THEREIN WHICH
ARE NOT FORTHWITH SUPPRESSED AND THE GUILTY PERSONS PUNISH
THE SAID OFFICIALS SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED AND FOREVE
PROHIBITED FROM HOLDING OFFICE OR RECEIVING OFFICIAL HONOR
ALL THESE ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND I BELIEVE SHOULD BE INSIS

INSISTED

INSISTED UPON EVEN IF SEPARATE CONVENTION WITH THE POWERS AGREEING SHOULD BE NECESSARY.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

.....

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED. (CIPHER)

CONGER,

PEKING.

NINTH. MOST CONFIDENTIAL. INSTRUCTIONS OF OCTOBER 29TH STILL EXPRESSES VIEWS OF THE PRESIDENT.PERIOD. THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAVING FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGED CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ELEVEN PERSONS NAMED YOU WILL INSIST UPON THEIR SEVERE AND ADEQUATE PUNISHMENT THOUGH THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT UNDERTAKE TO DETERMINE WHAT THE PUNISHMENT SHALL BE IN EACH CASE. IT IS IMPORTANT NOT DEFEAT OR DELAY GREATLY NEGOTIATIONS.

HAY.

.....

CONGER,

PEKING.

NINTH. ANSWERING YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM FIRST, THE PRESIDENT APPROVES SEVEN PROPOSED CONDITIONS. HE THINKING DISMANTLING TAKU FORTS WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO THEIR DESTRUCTION IN VIEW OF FUTURE TACTICAL CONTINGENCIES, SUGGESTS CONSULTATION

CONSULTATION WITH MILITARY COMMANDERS ON THIS POINT. PERIOD.
ANSWERING TELEGRAM SIXTH THE FIRST AND SECOND CONDITIONS
APPEAR TO BE SAFE GUARDS ANY FURURE TIME ESPECIALLY THE
SECOND. PERIOD. IF THE POWERS CANNOT AGREE ON THE FIRST THIS
GOVERNMENT WOULD RESERVE RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE WITH CHINA IN
THAT SENSE INDEPENDENTLY BUT COINCIDENTLY WITH THE POWERS
ENTERTAINING THE SAME VIEW. THIRD. CONDITION WOULD APPEAR
TO DEVOLVE RESPONSIBILITY TOO COMPLETELY ON THE LOCAL AUTHOR
ITIES. THE PRESIDENT IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PRIMARY RES-
PONSIBILITY OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED.
THE SUGGESTED ACCOUNTABILITY AND PROVISION FOR DELINQUENT
LOCAL AUTHORITIES BEING MERELY ONE PHASE OF THE ENFORCE
MENT OF THE SUPREME [illegible] TO SUPPRESS PUNISH AND MAKE
ADEQUATE REPARATION FOR TREATY INFRACTIONS. THE PRESIDENT
HAVING REGARD TO PROMPT AGREEMENT CONSIDERS THE BASIS OF
SETTLEMENT AS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE AND WOULD REGRET IF
DIVERGENCE SHOULD NECESSITATE UPON ESSENTIAL POINTS SEPA-
RATE CONVENTION WITH THE POWERS AGREEING UPON SUCH POINTS AS
YOU INTIMATE. PERIOD. MORAL EFFECT OF UNANIMOUS CONCERT CAN
HARDLY BE OVERESTIMATED.

(SIGNED) HAY.

TELEGRAM SENT. ((CIPHER)

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

BLUE CODE. FOURTEENTH. RUSSIAN GENERAL TIENTSIN HAS INFORMED CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES HE HAS TAKEN ABSOLUTE POSSESSION AS PROPERTY OF RUSSIAN ARMY BY RIGHT OF CONQUEST OF LARGE AREA FACING FOREIGN SETTLEMENT. I HAVE INSTRUCTED THE UNITED STATES CONSUL ENTER A PROTEST AND I SHALL PROTEST PROTEST TO RUSSIAN MINISTER. IT IS DANGEROUS PRECEDENT. BELGIUM ALSO CLAIMING LARGE TRACT ADJACENT TO RUSSIAN EXTENSIONS. ALL FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS SHOULD BE INTERNATIONAL. FURTHER ACTION BY YOU PERHAPS DESIRABLE.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

No. 449

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

File

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 8 1901
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 14th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Circular Instructions September 14th, 1900. Table to be used to indicate date of and hour of sending telegrams. Receipt of Mr Rockhill's Blue Code. Will in future be used in telegraphic correspondence with State Department.

No. 449

Legation of the United States of America,
Pekin, China.

November 14th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's Circular Instructions dated September 14th, last, giving a very convenient table for sending the date and hour of transmission of a telegram.

I wish also to inform you that I have today received from W. W. Rockhill, Esquire, his copy of "The Cipher Code of the Department of State, No. 24," blue, 1899, and which I shall in future use in my cipher telegraphic correspondence with the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure : Receipt as above.

Peking, China, Nove mber 14th, 1900.

RECEIVED OF W. W. ROCKHILL ONE COPY OF "THE CIPHER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, NO. 24," BLUE, 1899.

E. H. Conger

UNITED STATES MINISTER.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC, November 14th, 1900.

DIPLOMATIC
JAN 9 1901
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Grant.
JAN 8 1901

To the Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

Acting Minister Conger informed Jan'y 11. C.

I have the honor respectfully to request a leave of absence for sixty days, with permission to visit the United States, at such time during the year 1901 as the Minister may approve.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

William E. Bainbridge.

7.C.G.1

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 22 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
15 NOV 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

File

From Peking,

November 14, 1900.
Received via Taku, 7.05 AM
November 15, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Blue code. Fourteenth. Russian general, Tientsin, has informed Consular officers he has taken absolute possession, as property of Russian Army by right of conquest, of large area facing foreign settlement. I have instructed the United States Consul [to] enter a protest, and I shall protest to Russian Minister. It is dangerous precedent. Belgium also claiming large tract adjacent to Russian. All extensions foreign settlements should be international. Further action by you perhaps desirable.

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

November 15, 9.47 AM 190 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

November 14, 1900.

Received via Tuck, 7:01 PM

November 14, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

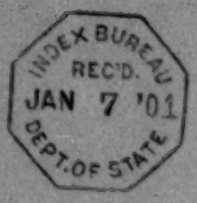
Tuxpan 0060. Telegraph Commercial, Mexico.

The following Consular officers be has taken absolute possession. No property of American Army by right of conquest. Let the open facing foreign sentiment. I have instructed the United States Consul(s)ador a protest, and [illegible] protest to Russian Minister. It is dangerous precedent. Belgium also claiming large tract adjacent to Tuxpan. All extensions foreign settlements should be international. Further action by you perhaps desirable.

[illegible] the Chief Clerk

November 14, 9.47, 1900 M.

No.21. COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA.



Peking, China, November 15, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Department's No.4 of September 1, last, enclosing copy of a despatch from the United States Consul General at Shanghai, with which is enclosed the translation of a letter from Peking appearing in a Chinese newspaper at Shanghai, and giving an account of recent events in Peking; also the Department's Nos.7 and 8, of October 3 and 4, 1900, respectively, enclosing prints of correspondence relating to Chinese affairs since the Department's No.6, of September 25th, 1900.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No.22.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 8 190
COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.
BUREAU.

Dupl sent Jan 11 J.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. approving Mr. Rockhill's reply to Chang Chih-tung -
JAN 8 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, November 16th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a translation of a telegram received from Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy at Wu-chang, relating to the execution of the Provincial Treasurer of Chih-li and other officials at Pao-ting Fu, together with my reply sent him through our Consul at Hankow.

The opinion of the Viceroy that these punishments should have been inflicted by the Chinese authorities agrees, I believe, with the views of the Department as shown by the Department's note of September 21st to the German Chargé d'Affaires in Washington.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

One enclosure.

Enclosure to No.22,Mr.Rockhill to Mr.Hay.

(Translation)

Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to Mr.Rockhill.

.....

To the United States Commissioner,

Sir.

W.W.Rockhill.

I have learned that the Allied Forces at Pao-ting Fu killed the Provincial Treasurer of Chih-li,Ting Yung,and others - in all six men. I have also learned that the foreign soldiers have gone to various districts,imprisoned and killed various Magistrates. Although the reports in the foreign press say that the Tresurer Ting had connived at and tolerated the "Boxers",nevertheless since August he certainly repented of his past deeds and despatched soldiers to exterminate the "Boxer" bandits. Further,when the foreign soldiers went to Pao-ting Fu and the various districts,the Treasurer did not lead his troops against the foreign soldiers,but went outside of the city to receive them and presented them with oxen and wine. It may be said that he certainly treated them kindly. Nothing was said beforehand that it was the purpose of the foreign forces to kill the Treasurer,and,further,no explanation was made as to the crime he committed and a request made to China to deal with him herself. This can only cause foreigners to be treated with contempt,and still further give rise to a feeling of hatred in the future. It will be difficult for the Chinese officials to open their mouths in having any control in arranging peace and they will be very much harrassed. The Gov-

ernment of the United States is known to be equitable, sincere and to do what is right and desires China to exercise complete sovereign rights. This question was brought to the attention of the foreign powers by the United States and it was agreed that China should herself deal with the leaders in this calamity. The action taken at Pao-ting is at variance with the views of the United States and this, I believe, the United States will agree to. The matter, however , is finished and it is not necessary to thoroughly discuss it. What we are anxious about is that the foreign soldiers are still moving about in many directions and it is not known what may happen. I ask you to consult with Mr. Conger and request the United States Government to use its best endeavors with the foreign powers to prevent them from again using their military power, so that the minds of the people may be set at rest and avoid further complications; that help may be offered to accomplish a settlement of terms of peace and then enable China to get out of the difficulty. The people will then not harbor any feeling of resentment. A speedy settlement will enable the merchants and farmers to resume their respective avocations. I cannot express how I hope for the accomplishment of this. I beg the favor of a telegraphic reply.

(Signed) Chang Chih-tung.

20th Chinese Moon. (November 11, 1900.)

.....

Translation of telegram sent in cipher.

Peking, China, November 16th, 1900.

American Consul, Hankow.

Sixteenth November. Inform Viceroy his telegram received

and substance communicated to Washington. Tell him United States took no part whatever in military expedition to Paoting Fu.

Rockhill.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.



From Peking,

November 16, 1900.

Received 11.09 P. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sixteenth. Under sentence of military court, approved by field marshal, the provincial treasurer, a Tartar general and a lieutenant-colonel have been decapitated at Paoting.

CONGER

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

November 17, 9.28 AM, *190* , *M.*

No. 450

JAN 1901
BUREAU

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 16th, 1900.

Rec'd Jan. 12, 1901.
Claims Nos. 59 & 25
(Turner's) returned to
Legation, April 6,
1901.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transmitting personal claims of American citizens for indemnities on account of losses during "Boxer" disturbances.

Assistant Solicitor,
JAN 9 1901
Department of State.

Minister Conger transmits 26 claims of citizens of the United States against the Chinese Government for property losses arising during the recent "Boxer" disturbances in China. These claims vary in amount from $672. to $38,296,-- the latter being a claim of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The aggregate amount of the claims is about $160,000.

The claims consist merely of an itemized statement of the articles of property lost, with their estimated value, which is sworn to as being correct.

There is no evidence of the citizenship of the claimants beyond the statement of Mr. Conger who transmits them as the "claims of our nationals".

Many of the claimants are missionaries and most of the losses were suffered during the siege of Peking.

F.V.

No. 450

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 16th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith a number of personal claims of our nationals against the Chinese Government on account of losses during the recent "Boxer" disturbances.

There are many other claimants, some of whom have been approached by Li Hung Chang with a view to settling their claims, as well as those of native Christians, so far as this province is concerned, directly with the Viceroy. On what basis he proposes to make such settlements I am not as yet informed, but will advise the Department in due course.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Enclosures:

C. H. Conger

1.

	Name.	Amount.
1.	Mrs John L. Mateer, 187	$2,083.00 Gold
2.	Gertrude Gilman,	850.00 Gold
3.	W. A. P. Martin,	$6,615.00 Mex.
4.	F. M. Chapin,	$1,125.00 Gold
5.	Peter Turner, *	Taels 5,130.00
6.	J. L. Whiting,	$3,280.00 Gold
7.	Charlotte M. Jewell,	$1,793.00 Gold
8.	George R. Davis,	$1,840.00 Gold
9.	Edward K. Lowry,	$15,878.80 Gold
10.	Miss J. G. Evans,	$2,530.00 Gold
11.	Mary E. Andrews,	$2,000.00 Gold
12.	Charlotte M. Jewell, Representing Woman's Foreign Miss' Society,	$38,296.00 Gold
13.	John M. Moore,	Taels 4,070.00
14.	Robert Coltman, Jr., M. D.,	$35,135.00 Gold
15.	George D. Lowry,	$3,752.00 Gold
16.	Misses Emma and Lizzie Martin,	672.00 Gold
17	Charles E. Ewing,	$2,860.00 Gold
18.	Howard S. Galt,	$1,599.50 Gold
19.	Reverend C. H. Fenn,	$7,285.00 Gold
20.	Chauncy Goodrich,	$10,900.00 Gold

* Returned to Legation at Peking, April 6, 1901.

21.	W. T. Hobart,	$1,595.00
22.	Anna D. Gloss,	$4,000.00 Gold
23.	Miss Alice Terrel,	$1,625.00 Gold
24.	Miss Ada Haven,	$1,500.00 Gold
25.	Peter Turner, *	Taels 8,800.00
26.	W. N. Pethick,	$909.00 Gold

* Returned to Legation at Peking, April 6, 1901.

No. 1.

CLAIM OF MRS JOHN L. MATEER.

AMOUNT.....$2,083.00 Gold

Mrs. John L. Mateer.

List of goods lost in Peking, China in June 1900.

Books.

Family Bible	15	00
Webs. Unabrigd Dict:	10	00
Miltons Par. Lost. Ills. by Doré	10	00
Chambers' Encyc. Full set.	35	00
Germany, Dict: of Everyday wants.	8	00
Bible Dict: (3 Copies)	10	00
History of the World 2 vol.	8	00
Histories 12 Copies	25	00
Condens Cyc.	3	00
More than 150 vol. Gen. Lit.	150	00
Works - At least 20 vol.	25	00
Art-Gallery	25	00
Photo-engraving library	50	00
Bibles in soft leather (2)	6	00
Scientific & Med. works	30	00
Mateer's Lessons	5	00
Dr. Goodrich's Syl.	1	00
Stents Dict:	3	00
Doolittle's "	3	00
Morrison "	4	00
5 Hymn & other books	10	00
	436	00

Attached

H65
436
01
4

Bedroom Suite	30	00
Mattress - Extra hair	25	00
Bed Springs - 2 sets -	10	00
Bedstead & 2 Mattresses	25	00
" room Chairs	10	00
Feather beds - 2	12	00
" Pillows - 5 - Hair 1	10	00
Comforters 7 (2 camels hair)	35	00
Blankets - 5	25	00
Counterpanes - 3	10	00
	193	00
	436	00
	629	00

over

Books	436	00
Carried over	193	00
Musquito nets - 3 sets.	12	00
Quilts - 7 - rare old ones.	30	00
Mattress Covers - 3	8	00
Rubber blankets - 1 fine white, 1 blk.	4	00
Cot + mattress	35	00
Carpet - 3 Ply - 40 yds.	7	00
1 roll Japanese matting - ement	6	00
1 " Chinese " "	5	00
1 " " one floor	25	00
Rugs - 8	5	00
1 Mirror - French glass	35	00
Curtains. 8 prs. - Lace & Combinations	10	00
Window Shades - 8 sets	15	00
1 Parlor Chair - upholstered - Walnut	30	00
Rockers - 3	10	00
Straight; Cane seat; parlor Chairs - 4	12	00
Hassock, Koris (2) Stickels (2)	4	00
Lacquer table.	9	00
Parlor table, Centre	6	00
Fancy tables - 2	4	00
Camphor-wood "	4	00
Walnut Swing table	4	00
Rattan table	8	00
Bamboo lounges - 2 - silk cushions	5	00
Walnut Shelves - 3 sets	3	00
" Boot rack	5	00
Large Case of drawers	4	00
Smaller " "	5	00
Wash stands - 2	4	00
Screen	14	00
Toilet sets - 4 (1 granite)	8	00
Hall tables (2) Chairs (2)	10	00
Extension table - Walnut	15	00
Dining room Chairs - 12	5	00
Side Board	10	00
Clock - 8 Day	25	00
Round Oak Stove	10	00
Bed room " (2)	35	00
Cook + Cook coil oil Stoves	5	00
" " Stove		
	$1080	00

Mrs. John L. Maher

Brt forward

	Gold.	
	$ 10	00
Cooking utensils	25	00
Shovel + tongs (2 sets) + etc	10	00
Ice Chest, Ice cream freezer	25	00
Iredan Chairs, polished + extra curtains	25	00
Washing + Laundry outfit	15	00
Soap, Starch, bluing, Gold Dust etc	25	00
Food Stores	75	00
	[illegible]	[illegible]
1½ doz. sheets, Pillow C., 1 doz. towels 1 doz.	25	00
Table Cloths (5) 2 napkins 2 doz.	125	00
Mr. John L. Maher's Indian wardrobe	85	00
Dry Clothing	35	00
Shoes + over shoes + umbrellas	45	00
Dry goods amount	[illegible]	[illegible]
Silver dinner Castor	10	00
" Table spoons ½ doz. T.S. 1½ doz. 299 s. ½ dz.	25	00
" " Forks 1 doz.	12	00
T. Knives - Rubber + Ivory handled 2 doz.	12	00
Carvers - 2 sets.	10	00
	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dishes - Dinner set -	25	00
Tea Sets - 4	30	00
Choice odd dishes, Fruit, Cake + etc	25	00
Glass ware	15	00
Lamps - 2 hang'g, 3 parlor, + sailor, Shades	35	00
Drugs, paints, oils -	35	00
Sheet iron + tins	20	00
Prepared Camels hair - 30 Cal.	10	00
Wire + elec. bell ap -	25	00
Stores lost coming fr. Amer.	64	00
Belfast order Table linen - Boston corp	25	00
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]
	$ 2003	00
Miscellaneous 40 — freight 40 —	80	00
Sum Total ———	$ 2083	00

Contraband

Books

	Gold
	$ 36 00
Bedroom fur., Bedding & B. linen	36 00
Parlor, Hall & dining room fur.	38 00
Table, bed linen & Personal Clothing	25 00
Shoes, Overshoes & umbrellas	65 00
Ament Dry goods	40 00
Silver & Cutlery	69 00
Dishes & Lamps	15 00
Drug, paints, Oils, Stationery & Wine	15 00
Preparations Camels hair	40 00
Elec. Bell &c.	30 00
Kitchen & Laundry	100 00
Food & Laundry stores	150 00
Miscellany (That have One hundred dollars)	40 00
Freight - 20%	100 00
sum total	2030 00

Total Amount of Claim $2083.00
gold

sum total - $2030.00

United States Legation, Pekin, China.

On this 17th day of August 1900 personally appeared before me Mrs John L. Mattes who being duly sworn states that the above list of loses sustained by her is just true and correct. C W Bainbridge
Second Secretary of Legation

No. 2.

CLAIM OF GE RTRUDE GILMAN.

AMOUNT.....U.S.GOLD $850.

Personal Loans of
Gertrude Gilman by "Boxes"

Books	$ 80	00
Pictures & photographs	85	00
Bric-a-brac	25	00
Clothing	360	00
General furnishings	300	00
U.S. Gold	$850	00

Gertrude Gilman

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

I, Gertrude Gilman, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of personal losses incurred by me during the Boxer riots in Peking hereto annexed is just, true and correct

Gertrude Gilman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of Nove mber, 1900.

W. E. Beauclerk

Second Secretray of Legation.

Personal Losses of
Gertrude Gilman by "Boxers"

Books	$	80 00
Pictures + photographs		85 00
Bric-a-brac		25 00
Clothing		360 00
General Furnishings		300 00
U. S. Gold	$	850 00

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

I, Gertrude Gilman, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of personal losses incurred by me during the Boxer riots in Peking hereto annexed is just, true and correct

Gertrude Gilman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of November, 1900.

W C Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 3.

CLAIM OF W. A. P. MARTIN.

AMOUNT.....$6,615.00 Mex.

Dr W. A. P. Martin's Claims against the Chinese Government for losses occasioned by hostilities at Peking June – Aug 1900.

1.	Forming library Chinese & foreign books	Mex.	$700
2.	" 100 Copies Natural Theology in Chinese		100
3	" 1 cottage piano		200
4	" 1 large melodeon rosewood case		120
5	" 3 new Carpets & oilcloth		300
6	" 2 rolls Canton matting		40
7	" 8 Camels hair Carpets & rugs		160
8	" Personal clothing		700
9	" 2 Sofas		30
10	" 2 doz Chairs, parlor & dining,		150
11	" 10 tables large and small		60
12	" 1 bedstead and bedding with hair mattresses		80
13	" 2 sideboards (one with mirror and marble top)		100
14	" 1 chest of drawers — 2 closets and 4 cupboards		60
15	" Additions to house built for me in Imperial City, 2 cisterns with piping, locks & keys $30, outhouses $180		320
16.	1 large mule $140 (wonderful Cart Horse)		320
17	" Furniture & books at my temple at Hills		100
18	" Advancement		75
19	" House occupied by Mr Reid taken on mortgage for taels 1000 = $1400 with improvements valued at taels 2000.		3000

Total $6615 (Mex)

The above is correct to the best of my memory and the estimates are low and moderate — much in fact more would be required to replace the lost articles.

W. A. P. Martin

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, W. A. P. Martin, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of losses sustained by me at the times and in the manner therein stated is correct as far as my memory serves me and that the estimates are fair and moderate.

W A P Martin

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of September 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 4.

CLAIM F. M. CHAPIN.

AMOUNT....$1,125.00 Gold.

Claim for Indemnity.

Imperial Chinese Government

To F. M. Chapin, Dr.

For Losses at Methodist Compound, Peking June. 20 - 1900 by looting.

Map & Book,	$10.00
Clothing & Bedding,	15.00

Also at

Rocky Point; Pei Tai ho.

One half Seaside Cottage,	1000.00
" " Furnishings " "	100.00
Total gold,	$1125.00

All above losses due to Boxers or other malcontents.

E. & O. E.

F. M. Chapin

Aug. 17, 1900.

Payment can be made to Treasurer North China Mission, American Board. Tientsin, China

United States Legation,

Peking, China.

On this 18th day of August 1900. personally appeared before me F. M. Chapin who being first duly sworn states on oath that the above statement of his personal losses at the times and in the manner stated, is just, true and correct.

W. E. Bainbridge
Second Secretary of Legation

(Personnel).

$1125.00

No. 6.

CLAIM OF J. L. WHITING.

AMOUNT.....$3,280 GOLD.

List of Goods and Personal Effects of J. L. Whiting
Destroyed in Peking in Riots and Fires of June (15th and 25th) 1900

Bedsteads and springs (5 double 2 single), Gold $.	84.*	
Mattresses and Pillows	85	
Bedding and Mosquito nets	40	
Carpets, Rugs and Matting	125	
Toilet sets and Wash-stands	36	
Bureaus and Mirrors	40	
Baths	12	
Tables, Side-boards and chairs	115	
Dinner, Tea and Fruit sets	50	
Silver ware	26	
Lamps	27	
2 Pianos and Sewing Machine	240	
Table linen	25	
Stores	75	
Tea Chests, Washtubs &c	24	
2 Clocks	10	
4 Stoves	80	
Pictures and Photographs	150	
Books and manuscripts	800	
Type-writer (Caligraph)	60	
Stationery and Stamps	20	
Sciopticon and Slides	175	
Mimeograph and paper	22	
Clothing	150	
Trunks and valises	30	
Bicycle (injured) and repair kit.	25	
Wheelbarrow	4	
Bank bills $21.	15	
	2624	
Freight Depreciation & use and things forgotten 25 per cent	656	
	*$3280	

Gold dollars.

*Estimated cost of securing an equally comfortable outfit. Many of the articles are placed below the original price.

J. L. Whiting

Peking Aug. 25th 1900.

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, J.L.Whiting, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of losses sustained by me at the time and in the manner herein made is just, true and correct.

J.L. Whitney

Subscribed and sworn to be fore me this 8th day of September, 1900

W. E. Fairbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

Indemnity claims of
J.L. Whiting
$ 3280.00
Ind. Freed

No. 7.

CLAIM OF CHARLOTTE M. JEWELL

AMOUNT.....$1,793.00 Gold.

Personal Losses of
C. M. Jewell by "Boxers"

Desk & chairs	$ 84	00
Lounge & bed-room set	162	00
Wall pictures	161	00
Library	600	00
Lamps	18	00
Tables	8	00
Stoves	96	00
Clothing	360	00
Dishes	12	00
Stoves	60	00
Photographs	120	00
Horses	76	00
Saddle, bridle etc.	36	00
U.S. Gold	$1793	00

Legation of the United States

Peking, China.

I, Charlotte M. Jewell being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of personal losses incurred by me during the Boxer riots in Peking hereto annexed is just, true and correct.

Charlotte M. Jewell.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of November, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 8.

CLAIM OF GEORGE R. DAVIS.

AMOUNT.....GOLD $1840.00

Personal property of Geo R. Davis, Methodist Episcopal Mission Peking, destroyed by Chinese on and after June 20th 1900.

			Gold
History of Europe	Alison	8 Vols 23	$ 150 00
" Ancient: Egyptian " Babylonian		" 22	80 00
" Greece, Rome, Jewish		Vols 4.	35 00
" Church		" 20	35 00
" Modern		" 45	75 00
Commentaries		" 40	145 00
Works on China		" 24	100 00
Encyclopaedias		" 24	125 00
Dictionaries, English, Chinese		" 12	65 00
Works on Astronomy & Others		" 10	35 00
Biography		" 10	25 00
General Literature		" 175	250 00
			$ 1120 00
Freight &c at 15 percent			168 00
			$ 1288 00 $ 1288 00

Furniture, Clothing. &c

One Bed room suite	$	52 00
Mattresses, 4 pillows, 6 blankets, 1 sheets &c 10		70 00
Clothing		100 00
Carpets, Rugs, Curtains, Matting &c		65 00
Chairs ash (2). Dining (6) walnut; large American		30 00
Tables, book cases		15 00
Bed room set small (Pair Vases &c)		15 00
Pictures, Albums, Curios &c		30 00
Clocks (2)		17 00
Lamps (4)		13 00
Kitchen utensils, Dishes &c		30 00
Tools		15 00
Trunks book & packing cases		28 00
	$	480 00
Freight &c 15 per cent		72 00
Total	$	552 00 $ 552 00

Grand Total $ 1840 00

Peking Left 1st " 1900

Geo R. Davis,

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, George R. Davis, being first duly sworn on oath say that the annexed schedule of losses sustained by me at the time and in the manner therein stated is just true and correct.

George R. Davis,

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge
Second Secretary of L.

Furnit

Personal property of Geo R Davis, Methodist Episcopal Mission, Peking, destroyed by Chinese on and after June 20th 1900

		Gold
History of Europe. Alison illustrated Vols 23	$	150 00
" Ancient: Egyptian & Babylonian " 22		90 00
" Greece, Rome, Jewish " 14		35 00
" Church " 20		35 00
" Modern " 45		75 00
Commentaries " 40		145 00
Works on China " 24		100 00
Encyclopedias " 24		125 00
Dictionaries. English, Chinese &c. " 12		65 00
Works on Astronomy with atlases " 10		35 00
Biography " 10		25 00
General Literature " 175		250 00
	$	1120 00
Freight &c at 15 per cent		168 00
Total	$	1288 00 $ 1288 00

ture, Clothing &c.

One bed room suite	$	52 00
Mattresses 4, pillows 4, blankets 4, sheets 10		70 00
Clothing		100 00
Carpets, Rugs, Curtains, matting		65 00
Chairs (3) oak, Cane, American Dining & walnut		30 00
Tables, book cases		15 00
Bed room set: small, Pei Lien Hu,		15 00
Pictures, Albums & Curios		30 00
Clocks (2)		17 00
Lamps (4)		13 00
Kitchen utensils, Dishes &c		30 00
Tools		15 00
Trunks, box & packing cases		28 00
	$	480 00
Freight &c. at 15 per cent.		72 00
Total	$	552 00 $ 552 00

Grand total $ 1840 00

Peking Left 1st 1900

Geo R Davis.

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China,

I, George R. Davis, being first duly sworn, on oath say that annexed schedule of losses sustained by me at the time and in the manner therein stated is just, true and correct

George R. Davis.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 1900.

W E Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 9.

CLAIM EDWARD K. LOWRY.

AMOUNT.....$15,878.80
Gold.

Indemnity List

of

Edward K. Lowry.

Peking, China.

September 25th. 1900.

Indemnity List.

Edward K. Lowry. Peking, China.

	$ Gold			
Bedding.				
15 Feather and Down Pillows	33	50		
8 Comforts ($21.00) 5 Blankets ($20.50)	41	50		
5 Counterpanes ($13.00) 3 Mosquito nets ($2.00)	25	00		
7 Pair linen and cotton sheets	17	00		
2 doz. pillow cases ($12.00); 1 silk quilt ($10.00)	22	00		
4 sets sham pillow covers	16	50		
Silk & other fancy pillow covers	11	00		
Fancy articles for bed-room	11	50	178	00
Books.				
Library	1200	00		
Collection of note & scrap books	100	00		
Supply of stationery & blank books	25	00	1325	00
Clothing.				
Wardrobe of Edward K. Lowry	280	00		
Wardrobe of Katharine M. Lowry	205	75		
6 Umbrellas, Parasols, etc.	23	50	509	25
Dishes.				
1 set Austrian china dishes (98 pieces)	36	00		
1 set semi-porcelain dishes (114 pieces)	20	00		
1 Fish set (15 pieces)	12	00		
1 barrel odd & end china	7	00		
1 coffee pot & 1 doz. after-dinner coffees	12	50		
Glass ware (tumblers, fruit dishes etc.)	11	50		
1 Table-mirror ($3.50) Peitaiho dishes ($5.00)	8	50	107	50
House Furnishings.				
1 Mahogany bed room set (4 pieces with springs & hair mattress)	85	75		
1 Domestic drop-top sewing machine with extra supplies	45	00		
1 fine hair mattress	20	00		
8 straight chairs ($25.00) 3 rocking chairs ($15.50)	40	50		
	191	25	2119	75

Forwarded	191	25	2119	75
6 Tables ($48.50) 1 wardrobe ($5.00)	53	50		
2 Bookcases ($40.00) 3 screens ($7.00)	57	00		
1 Walnut writing desk	25	00		
1 Couch with mattress	23	00		
1 Black & gold pedestal	12	00		
2 Japanese cabinets	6	00		
1 Single iron bed with springs & mattress	15	00		
1 Stationery bath-tub & 1 commode	30	00		
2 Sets shelves ($7.00) 5 odd chairs ($12.50)	19	50		
1 Ottoman & 3 wall brackets	9	00		
2 Extension tables, 1 side-board, 1 doz. chairs	95	00		
1 Oak bed room set (3 pieces with springs & hair mattress)	51	00		
1 Iron bed (with springs & hair mattress)	24	75		
1 Washstand & 2 Chiffoniers	25	00		
1 Walnut wardrobe & 1 writing desk	28	00		
2 Side tables, 1 spring cot, 1 commode	10	25		
12 Rugs & carpets (all sizes)	147	50		
Mattings	18	00		
2 Stoves, coal hod, shovels, etc.	73	00		
6 Lamps & candlesticks	29	50		
1 Coal oil & 3 alcohol stoves	7	00		
4 Clocks (1 marble, 1 gold, 2 nickel)	40	00		
Lace & other curtains, shades, etc.	40	00		
Curtain poles, stretchers, & wire screens	9	00	1039	25
Kitchen & Laundry Supplies.				
Cooking utensils ($12.30) Fruit jars ($7.25)	19	55		
1 Sandovar ($4.50) 1 Chafing dish ($7.50)	12	00		
Water jars ($2.25) Ice box, hanging closet ($6.00)	8	25		
Supply of food stuffs, oil, etc.	57	20		
Iron holders, ironing board covers, etc.	3	65		
Flat-irons, ironing board, wringer	9	50		
	110	15	3159	00

Forwarded	110	15	3159	00
Starch, bluing, laundry soap	9	50		
Laundry tubs, ironing table	5	25		
Clothes pins, dust pans, brooms, etc.	3	50	128	40
Miscellaneous.				
1 Bicycle & supply of sundries	52	00		
1 Remington type-writer	100	00		
1 Cornet & 2 music stands	25	00		
Ammunition of all sorts	20	00		
1 Tennis set	15	00		
1 Inlaid ivory chess set & other games	17	00		
2 Stereopticans with views	5	00		
Mounted butterflies & stuffed birds	12	00		
Flowers($2.50) Hammock($2.75) Croquet set($3.00)	8	25		
Hardware, tools, iron roofing, paint, etc.	23	00		
Wood carving tools ($10.00) 4 Curry combs ($2.00)	12	00		
Water color paints, embroidery silks, etc.	19	00		
1 Camera with 200 developed negatives	22	00		
200 Prints, 2 ruby lanterns, trays, & developing chemicals	26	50		
Collection of foreign coins	20	00		
Collection of foreign postage stamps	275	00	651	75
Ornaments.				
2 Marble statuettes	30	00		
12 Pieces Cloissoné	81	00		
23 Pieces porcelain & China	58	75		
6 Pieces bronze & brass	18	00		
11 Pieces ornaments of all kinds	47	00		
8 Pieces tortoise shell & silver curios	12	00		
29 Framed pictures (all sizes)	161	75	408	50
Sewing Accessories.				
Unmade materials (dress goods, muslin, etc.)	125	05		
	125	05	4347	65

Forwarded	125	05	4347	65
30 paper patterns, laces, embroideries, etc.	27	25		
Thread, needles, buttons, whale-bones etc.	39	35	191	65
Table Linen.				
15 Table-cloths, tea-cloths, & silent cloth	84	00		
6 Doz. napkins (embroidered initials)	28	00		
2½ Doz. fruit napkins (drawn work)	15	00		
5 Battenberg lace & large embroidered centerpieces	60	00		
2½ Doz. dish towels	1	80	188	80
Toilet Accessories.				
5 Doz. damask, huck & Turkish towels	47	00		
Turkish & rubber washrags, sponges, etc.	8	00		
Bureau & wash-stand covers	5	00		
12 Silver, hand painted & cut glass toilet articles	28	00		
Rubber toilet articles (hot water bags, etc.)	7	50		
Toilet water, tooth powder, medicines, etc.	10	65		
100 Ivory soap ~~$7.00~~ Toilet soaps $3.25	10	25		
4 Toilet sets ($26.50) 2 mirrors ($5.00)	31	50		
Water cans, brass kettle, etc.	6	00	153	90
Trunks, etc.				
4 Trunks ($44.00) Travelling articles (8.50)	52	50		
7 Tin & zinc lined boxes	24	50		
4 Book case boxes & closet	20	00	97	00
			4979	00
Freight on above articles at 20%			995	80
1 Mule ($100.00) 1 Pony ($75.00)			175	00
1 Sedan chair			15	00
House at Rocky Point, Peitaiho			4900	00
Rent of same for 2 seasons			714	00
House at East Cliff, Peitaiho			3200	00
Rent of same for 2 seasons			500	00
Salary for 2 months			400	00
Total Gold $15,878.80	Gold		$15,878	80

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, Edward K. Lowry, being first duly sworn, on oath say that the foregoing itemized statement of lossess sustained by me during the disturbances at Peking in the months of June, July and August, 1900, is just, true and correct.

Edward K. Lowry

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of October 1900.

William E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

E. H. Lowry

$15878.60 Cr

No. 10.

CLAIM MISS J. G. E VANS.

AMOUNT.....$2,530.00
(Gold)

Claim for Indemnity.

The Imperial Chinese Government.

To J. G. Evans.

	Dr. Gold
Furniture & furnishings	$ 273.00
Clothing and material	300.
Books	500.
Carpets	120.
Bedding	64.
Stationary	10.
Camera & c - Pictures, negatives	500.
Trunks	26.
Sundries	208.
	2000.
Money in house	530.
	2530.

Above losses caused by Boxers or soldiers on or after June 16th 1900 at Tsing Chow

E & O. E.

J. G. Evans

Peking. Aug. 18. 1900.

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

Miss J. G. Evans being first duly sworn on oath states the the statement of losses herein made is just true and correct.

J. G. Evans.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of August, 1900.

W. E. Barrett Jr
2nd Secy of Legation

$2530.00
Ind. Fund.

No. 11.

CLAIM OF MARY E. ANDREWS.

(Gold)

AMOUNT.....$2,000.00

Claim for Indemnity.

The Imperial Chinese Government,

To Mary E. Andrews, Dr.

To Books,	$200.00
Furniture,	300.00
Carpets, curtains &c.,	100.00
Bedding,	50.00
Pictures,	300.00
Clothing,	300.00
Sundries,	250.00
	2000.00

Above losses caused by Boxers or soldiers on or after June 16th, 1900. at Tung-chou

E. & O. E.

Mary E. Andrews

Peking, Aug. 18, 1900.

UNITED STATES LEGATION.
PEKING, CHINA.

I, Mary E. Andrews, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above statement of losses sustained by at the time and in the amounts therein given is just true and correct.

Mary E. Andrews.

Subscribed and sworn to be fore me this 18th day of August 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 12.

CLAIM CHARLOTTE M. JEWELL,

REPRESENTING

WOMAN'S FOREIGN

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

AMOUNT.....$38,296.00

aluation of the Property of the Woman's Foreign
rissionary Soc. destroyed by "Boxers" on the
Peking district

	U. S. Gold
Peking Boarding School	$11000 00
" School Furnishings	2377 00
" " desks + seats	700 00
Western Hills " Building	850 00
Peking Hospital "	15000 00
Western Hills Dispensary	200 00
Peking "Home"	5000 00
" Servants Quarters	500 00
" Walks	300 00
Walls + Gate house	400 00
Furnishings at Western Hills	200 00
House " " "	1000 00
Home Furniture + Library	700 00
Peking Day School Building	69 00
	$38296 00

Charlotte M. Jewell
Anna M. Gloss
Gertrude Gilman

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

I, Charlotte M. Jewell, being first duly sworn on oath say that I am the Treasurer of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society at Peking, China, that the above is a schedule of the property of said society destroyed during the Boxer riots in Peking and that the same i s just, true and correct.

Charlotte M. Jewell

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of November, 1900.

W. E. Bantin

Second Secretary of Legation.

Schedule of property of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society destroyed by the Boxers in the Peking dist.

	Gold	
Peking School Buildings	$11000	00
" " Furnishings	2377	00
" " Seats + desks	700	00
Western Hills " Building	850	00
Peking Hospital Building	15000	00
Western Hills Dispensary	200	00
Home	5000	00
Servants Quarters	500	00
Walks	300	00
Walls and gate house	700	00
Furnishings at Western Hills	200	00
Home " " "	1000	00
Homes Furniture + Library	700	00
	$38227	00
Day School Building	69	00
Total	$38296	00

Charlotte M. Jewell
Anna A. Gloss.
Gertrude Gilman

United States Legation.
Peking, China.

I, Charlotte M. Jewell, being first duly sworn on oath say that I am the Treasurer of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society at Peking, China, that the above is a schedule of the property of said society destroyed during the Boxer riots in Peking and that the same is just, true and correct.

Charlotte M. Jewell

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of November, 1900.

W. E. Beimbridge
Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 13.

CLAIM OF JOHN M. MOORE.

AMOUNT..... Taels 4,070.00

List of Furnitures & Clothing etc belonging to John M. Moore, destroyed by Chinese, during the month of June 1900.

1 Whole complete Bed Room furniture	590.00
Mrs Moore's Clothing	600.00
Mr. Moore's do-	400.00
Dining Room Furniture	300.00
1 Diner Service for 12 persons	80.00
Table knives, Spoons & forks	30.00
3 Tea & Coffee Services	60.00
1 Set Silver fruit knives	30.00
3 Carpets	120.00
6 Cain Chairs	25.00
1 Banjo	45.00
1 Mandoline	60.00
1 Piano	450.00
3 Stoves & piping	60.00
1 Small Bedstead Complete	60.00
Collection of Chinese Bronze & Silver & Cloisonné wares	600.00
Kitchen Utensils	40.00
4 Months Salary lost	500.00
Tls	4070.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, John M. Moore, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of losses sustained by me at the time and in the manner herein made is just true and correct.

John M. Moore.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of August, 1900

W. E. Cainbridge
Second Secretary of Legation

List of Furnitures & Clothing etc
belonging to John M Moore, distroyed
by Chinese, during the month of
June 1900.

Whole Complete Bed room furniture	590.00
Mr Moore's Clothing	600.00
Mrs Moore's do	400.00
Dining Room Furniture	300.00
1 Diner Service for 12 persons	80.00
Table knives, Spoons & forks	30.00
3 Tea & Coffee Services	60.00
1 Set Silver fruit knives	50.00
3 Carpets	120.00
6 Cain Chairs	25.00
1 Banjo	45.00
1 Mandoline	60.00
1 Piano	450.00
3 Stoves & piping	60.00
1 Small Bedstead Complete	60.00
Collection of Chinese Bronze, Silver & Cloisonné wares	600.00
Kitchen Utensils	40.00
4 Months Salary lost	500.00
Tael	4070.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, John M. Moore, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of losses sustained by me at the time and in the manner herein made is just true and correct.

John M. Moore.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of August, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge
Second Secretary of Legation

John M. Moore
4070. Pauls

No. 14.

CLAIM OF ROBERT COLTMAN, JR.

AMOUNT.....$35,135.00

Inventory of Real Estate and personal property of Robert Coltman Jr M.D. destroyed by the Chinese during Siege in Peking 1900

U. S. Gold $

Brick Residence two story 13 rooms 2 halls 4 outhouses for servants and stables. value $8000.00

Brick Residence two storey 7 rooms 2 halls, Kitchen six outhouses for servants $5000.00

Brick Residence Pertains 5 rooms. 65 feet long veranda 10 ft wide. 4 servants outrooms $3000.00

Surgical Outfit, Microscopes, Obstetrical outfit Etc &c 1500.00

Drugs, Chemicals, Apparatus Etc 1000.00

Medical Library 300 vols 1500.00

Library Fiction, History, Etc Etc 300 vols 450.00

Photograph Albums photos & photo material 150.00

Furniture 2 Drawing rooms. Grand upright piano 2 sets silk upholstered furniture Silk & lace Curtains 2 large mirrors heavy carpets pastels & other pictures 1200.00

Furniture Two halls carpets, mirrors, Etc Etc 100.00

" Dining room sideboard table Carpet Stove 300.00

Silverware table linen bed linen glassware Jewelry &c. 400.00

Kitchen Furniture tables cupboards Stove Etc Etc 150.00

Pantry " " " Etc Ice chest 100.00

Four bedrooms each fully furnished wardrobe bed Spring mattress hair mattress carpets curtains Etc Etc 1200.00

Bath room bath tub Washstand Mirrors Etc 100.00

Outhouses Native Furniture 100.00

Official Cart, harness, Allcloth Coats Etc 100.00

Curios Vases bowls idols plaques Etc Etc various 250.00

Foreign Stores Wines cigars Flour Sugar Etc 300.00

24.900.00

Inventory W Coltman (continued)

	Land Gold
Brought Forward	$24.900.00
Furniture Pertains hereto. Sideboard desk chairs tables beds cooking utensils Electric	400.00
Furniture dining room easy chairs table cases etc	150.00
Oil Portrait Revolutionary Ancestor Cost £100.	500.00
Clothing Self	500.00
" " Wife	600.00
" Robert 3d age 16½ years	280.00
" Eva D. age 14½ "	315.00
" Alice C. " 12½ "	245.00
" Chas. L. " 9 "	175.00
" Mary O. " 5 "	140.00
" Wm O. " 1½ "	105.00
Furniture Office. Safe desk lounge 2 book cases. Rug carpet lamps Curtains pictures etc	450.00
Rent loss Pertains 2 seasons	400.00
" " Room Residence 1 Year	600.00
" " 13 " " 1 "	800.00
Loss practice 1 year	4000.00
Two bicycles & bicycles supplies	75.00
Incidentals. Forgotten, small articles,	500.00
	$35.135.00

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

I, Robert Coltman Jr. being first duly sworn on oath say that that the statement of losses sustained by me at the time in and the amounts herein made is just true and correct.

Robert Coltman Jr. M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of August, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

Inventory of Real Estate and personal property of Robert Coltman Jr M.D. destroyed by the Chinese during the siege in Peking 1900

Gold U.S

Brick residence, 2 storey, 13 rooms 2 halls 4 outhouses for servants stables Etc Value $8000.00

Brick residence 2 storey 7 rooms 2 halls, six outhouses for servants $5000.00

Brick residence Detached 5 rooms 65 ft long verandas 10 ft wide 4 outrooms servants $3000.00

Surgical Outfit, Microscopes, Obstetrical Outfit Etc Etc $1500.00

Drugs chemicals apparatus Etc Etc 1000.00

Medical Library 300 vols 1500.00

Library Fiction, history Etc Etc 300 vols 450.00

Photograph Albums photos & photo materials 150.00

Furniture 2 Drawing rooms Grand Upright piano 2 settees silk upholstered furniture, Silk & lace curtains 2 large mirrors heavy carpets pastel & other pictures 1200.00

Furniture Two halls carpets mirrors tables etc 100.00

Furniture Dining room sideboard tables carpets Stores &c $300.00

Silverware table linen bed linen glass ware Family $400.00

Kitchen furniture tables cupboards Stove Etc 150.00

Pantry " " " Ice chest Etc 100.00

Four bedrooms Each fully furnished bed, Spring mattress, wardrobe, hair mattress carpet Curtains Etc Etc 1200.00

Bath room. bath tub wash stand mirrors carpet &c 100.00

Outhouses native furniture 100.00

Official Cart, harness, Oilcloth covers Etc 100.00

Curios Vases, bowls, idols plaques, Cloisonné &c 250.00

Foreign stores wines, cigars, flour Sugar Etc 300.00

24.900.00

Inventory of Dr Coltman (Continued)

Brought Forward	24.900.00
Furniture Pertains house Sideboard desk chairs tables beds cooking utensils Etc Etc	400.00
Furniture drug room Easy chairs tables cases etc	150.00
Oil portrait Revolutionary Ancestor cost $100.	500.00
Clothing self	500.00
" Wife	600.00
" Robert J. Age 16½ years	280.00
" Eva D. " 14½ "	315.00
" Alice C " 12½ "	245.00
" Chas L. " 9 "	175.00
" Mary O. " 5 "	140.00
" Wm P. " 1½ "	105.00
Furniture Office Safe, desk lounge & chairs 2 bookcases Stove carpets curtains pictures etc etc	450.00
Rent loss Pertains 2 seasons	400.00
" " 7 room residence 1 year	600.00
" " 13 " " 1 "	800.00
Loss practice profession 1 "	4000.00
Two bicycles & bicycle supplies	75.00
Incidentals forgotten small articles	300.00
	35.135.00

ion of the United States of America.

ng, China.

I, Robert Coltman, jr. being first duly sworn on oath that the statement of losses sustained by me at the time and the amounts herein made is just true and correct.

Robert Coltman Jr M.D.

cribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of August, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

35 135 00

W. S. Judd

No. 15.

LOWRY, GEORGE D.

AMOUNT OF CLAIM.....$3,752.00

List of Personal Property lost during "The Siege of Peking" June. 1900.

1. Library.-	$1400.00
2. Surgical Instruments.-	180.00
3. Book Cases.-	60.00
4. Sewing Machine.- (New Singer.)	45.00
5. Chair- large leather upholstered rocking.-	30.00
6. " - Carved Oak- Plush upholstered.-	25.00
7. Chairs- odd.-	25.00
8. Bed-room Set.-	30.00
9. Haviland China Dinner Set.-	48.00
10. China Dinner Set.-	15.00
11. Fancy Dishes- Japanese- Brass trakettls.-	42.00
12. Cooking utensils.-	30.00
13. Toilet Sets- (two).-	12.00
14. Roller top desk.-	30.00
15. Patent Desk Chair.-	9.00
16. Beds (two- child's).-	12.00
17. Carpets, Rugs, Mattings etc.-	240.00
18. Bedding (mattresses, blankets, etc.).-	150.00
19. Table linen.-	45.00
20. Lamps.-	19.00
21. Towels.-	18.00
22. Pictures & Frames.-	120.00
23. Ornaments etc.-	20.00
24. Bath- tubs.-	20.00
25. Laundry Supplies.-	30.00
26. Stove.-	12.00
27. Stoves.-	180.00
28. Trunks, Zinc lined boxes etc.-	30.00
29. Wardrobes (Self & family).-	600.00
30. Curtains, Shades, etc.,	25.00
31. House Fixtures (door springs etc.).-	12.00
Carried forward	$3519.00

List of Personal Property lost during "The Siege of Peking" - June - 1900.

1. Library.-	$1400.00
2. Surgical Instruments	180.00
3. Book Cases.-	60.00
4. Sewing machine.- (New Singer)	45.00
5. Chair - large leather upholstered rocking.-	30.00
6. " - Carved Oak - plush upholstered.-	25.00
7. Chairs - odd.-	25.00
8. Bed-room Set.-	30.00
9. Haviland China Dinner Set.-	48.00
10. China Dinner Set.-	15.00
11. Fancy Dishes - Japanese - Brass teakettle.-	42.00
12. Cooking utensils.-	30.00
13. Toilet Sets - (two) -	12.00
14. Roller-top desk.-	30.00
15. Patent Desk Chair.-	9.00
16. Beds (two - child's).-	12.00
17. Carpets, Rugs, Mattings etc.-	240.00
18. Bedding (mattresses, blankets, etc.)-	150.00
19. Table-linen -	45.00
20. Lamps.-	19.00
21. Towels.-	18.00
22. Pictures & Frames.-	120.00
23. Ornaments etc.-	25.00
24. Bath-tubs.-	20.00
25. Laundry Supplies.-	30.00
26. Stove.-	12.00
27. Stoves.-	180.00
28. Trunks, Zinc lined boxes etc.-	30.00
29. Wardrobes (Self & family).-	600.00
30. Curtains, Shades, etc.-	25.00
31. House Fixtures (door springs etc.)-	12.00
Carried forward.-	$ 3519.00

32. Baby-
33. Saddl
34. Sidai
35. Cart-
36. Cam-
37. Silvi

Brought forward	$ 3519.00
-Carriage.-	20.00
s & Bridle.-	40.00
n Chair.-	12.00
-(complete with harness).-	96.00
ra, Kodak & Supplies.-	35.00
r watch.-(Elgin-Hunting case)	30.00
Total U.S. Gold	$ 3752.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, G. D. Lowry, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of personal losses sustained by me as a result of and during the Boxer riots in Peking and that the same is just, true and correct.

Geo. D. Lowry.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of November 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 16.

CLAIM OF MISSES EMMA

AND LIZZIE MARTIN.

AMOUNT.....$672.00 Gold

Property distroyed at Peking - by the Chinese during June & July 1900 - Belonging to Emma & Lizzie Martin

Books	$250.00
Instruments	25.00
Trunks	35.00
Clothing	185.00
Shoes	20.00
Bedding	22.00
Furniture	40.00
Cloaks	30.00
Rugs	15.00
Diplomas	50.00
	$672.00 Gold

United States Legation.

Peking, China.

We, Emma and Lizzie Martin, being first duly sworn on oath state that the above statement of losses sustained by us at the time and in the amounts stated is just true and correct.

Emma C. Martin Lizzie E. Martin.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of August 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

2nd Secy of Legation.

Home Address
Allentown
Pa.

End.

Moses Martin
(Emma and Dizzie)
$ 672.00
U.S. funds

No. 17.

CLAIM OF CHARLES E. EWING.

AMOUNT.....$2,860.00

Claim for Indemnity.

Imperial Chinese Government

To Charles E. Ewing, Dr.

To losses at Peking in June, 1900. Gold.

To Bedding	$205.00
Table linen, etc.	75.00
Crockery & glassware	180.00
Books, mss., pictures, photos	950.00
Tools	40.00
Bank notes, etc (worthless)	40.00
Vehicles	30.00
Furniture, carpets, etc.	500.00
Clothing	520.00
Silverware & jewelry	200.00
Stoves	70.00
Kitchen utensils	25.00
Toys, games, etc.	25.00
Totals	$2860.00

The above may be paid to Treasurer North China Mission, American Board, Tientsin, China; or, preferably, to F. H. Wiggin, Treasurer, Congregational House, Boston, Mass.

United States Legation

Peking, China.

I, Charles E. Ewing, being first duly sworn on oath say that that the above statement of my losses at the time and in the amounts given therein is just true and correct.

Charles E. Ewing.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of August 1900.

W E Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.



2860.00
Mr. Frank

No. 18.

CLAIM OF HOWARD S. GALT.

AMOUNT.....$1,599.50

Indemnity list of H. S. Galt -
lost in Tung-cho and Peking June 1900

lothing.	
Mr. Galt	$84.50
Mrs. Galt	207,50
urniture	250,00
ishes	94.50
edding	68.75
ooks (library)	690.00
icycle - Tools etc	66,50
iscellaneous (including stores)	137.75
Total	$1599.50

UNITED STATES LEGATION

PEKING, CHINA.

I, H. S. Galt, being first duly sworn, on oath say that the above statement of losses sustained by me at the time and in the amounts therein given is just true and correct.

Howard Galt

Subscribed and sworn to be fore me this 18th day of August 1900.

W. W. Cambridge
Second Secretary of Legation

No. 19.

CLAIM REVEREND C. H. FENN.

AMOUNT?.....$7,285.00

Estimate of Property of Rev. C. H. Fenn, Peking, China, destroyed by the Chinese in the "Boxer" persecution, Summer 1900.

	Gold $.	
1. Household Furniture		654
2. Furnishings, (Curtains &c.)		39
3. Matting, Rugs &c.		107
4. Crockery, Glass, Silver & Utensils		265
5. Provisions		107
6. Bedding & Table Linen		142
7. Pictures, framed & unframed.		268
8. Clothing, furs &c.		632
9. Clocks, ~~Plated~~ & jewelry		37
10. Books & maps.	1	650
11. Papers, indexes &c.		950
12. Stationery & instruments		490
13. Hardware, tools, &c.		94
14. House and furniture at Peitaiho	1	800
	7	235
15. Personal trust fund just spent in repairs		50
At probable current rate of	7	285

Exchange, about K. J. Taels 10.000.

I believe this to be a true statement of the value of property destroyed.

C. H. Fenn,

American Presbyterian Mission,

Peking, August 17th 1900.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PEKING, CHINA.

I, C. H. Fenn, being first duly sworn on oath say that the itemized statement of losses sustained by me at the time and the amounts given therein is just, true and correct

Courtenay H. Fenn.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of August 1900.

W. W. Barnbridge

Secodn Secretary of Legation

No. 20.

CLAIM OF CHAUNCEY GOODRICH.

AMOUNT.....$10,900.00

1900 1900

Goods destroyed by the Seige

Chauncey Goodrich. Personal.

		Gold
1	1 Telescope	1000 00
2	Musical Instruments	1040 00
3	Library including 420 vols of my published books.	2730 00
4	Manuscript	500 00
5	Clothing. (5 persons)	1000 00
6	Boots and Shoes	120 00
7	Bedding. 125. Curtains 50.	175 00
8	Furniture and Lamps	685 00
9	Pictures & Photos. 500 Vases 100.	600 00
10	Carpeting	125 00
11	Stoves & Fuel	225 00
12	Hardware & Kitchen Utensils	125 00
13	Trunks and Chests	100 00
14	Provisions and Medicines	275 00
15	China, Silver and Table Linen	135 00
16	1 Sewing Machine	50 00
17	1 Watch 50. Bicycle & Extras 50.	100 00
18	Stationery & articles in 3 Writing Desks	100 00
19	1 Saddle	15 00
20	2 Cows and Calf & Cow Fed 15	45 00
21	2 Sedan Chairs	25 00
22	Lumber	20 00
23	Foreign Fruit Trees & Grape Vines	500 00
24	Grape Vine Arbor	60 00
25	3 Monuments in Cemetery	200 00
26	Cottage at Western Hills (in part)	170 00
27	Furniture in Cottage	250 00
28	Bricks	30 00
29	Sundries	500 00
	Total	10900 00

Chauncey Goodrich

Peking. Aug. 13, 1900.

1900 1900

Goods destroyed by the Seige

Chauncey Goodrich. Personal.

		Gold
1	1 Telescope	$ 100 00
2	Musical Instruments	1040 00
3	Library including 420 vols of my published books.	2730 00
4	Manuscript	500 00
5	Clothing. (5 persons)	1000 00
6	Boots and Shoes	120 00
7	Bedding. 125. Curtains 50.	175 00
8	Furniture and Lamps	685 00
9	Pictures & Photos. 500 Vases 100.	600 00
10	Carpeting	125 00
11	Stoves & Fuel	225 00
12	Hardware & Kitchen Utensils	125 00
13	Trunks and Chests	100 00
14	Provisions and Medicines	275 00
15	China, Silver and Table Linen	135 00
16	1 Sewing Machine	50 00
17	1 Watch 50. Bicycle & Extras 50.	100 00
18	Stationery & articles in 3 Writing Desks	100 00
19	1 Saddle	15 00
20	2 Cows and Calf & Cow Feed 15	45 00
21	2 Sedan Chairs	25 00
22	Lumber	20 00
23	Foreign Fruit Trees & Grape Vines	500 00
24	Grape Vine Arbor	60 00
25	3 Monuments in Cemetery	200 00
26	Cottage at Western Hills (in part)	170 00
27	Furniture in Cottage	250 00
28	Bricks	30 00
29	Sundries	500 00
	Total	10900 00

Chauncey Goodrich

Peking. Aug. 13, 1900.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PEKING, CHINA.

I, Chauncey Goodrich, being first duly sworn on oath say that the statement of losses sustained by me at the ti and in the amounts herein given is just true and correct.

Chauncey Goodrich

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of August 1900.

W E Beardsley

Second Secretary of Legation.

Chauncey Goodrich $ 10900.00 U.S. Gold

No. 21.

CLAIM OF W. T. HOBART.

AMOUNT.....$1,595.00

Personal Property of W. T. Hobart.

Library	$500.
Piano	475.
Sewing Machine Wilcox and Gibbs	45.
Japanese dishes and common china	55.
Silverware	100.
Clothing	100.
Rugs	45.
Trunks	20.
Bedding Curtains &c	60.
Table Linen	40.
Pictures and Bic a brac	90.
Kitchen utensils	20.
2 Book Cases	20.
Other Furniture	25
	$1595.

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, W. T. Hobart, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a list of my personal property destroyed during the Boxer riots in June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

W. T. Hobart

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

Personal Property of W. T. Hobart

Library	$500.
Piano	475.
Sewing Machine Wilcox & Gibbs	45.
Japanese dishes and common china	55.
Silverware	100.
Clothing	100.
Rugs	45.
Trunks	20.
Bedding Curtains &c	60.
Table Linen	40.
Pictures & Bric a brac	90.
Kitchen utensils	20.
Book Cases	20.
Other Furniture	25.
	$1595.

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking China, October 29th, 1900.

I, W. T. Hobart, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a list of my personal property destroyed during the Boxer riots in June)August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct

W. T. Hobart.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of October, 1900.

W. E. Bacon Griggs

Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 22.

CLAIM OF ANNA D. GLOSS.

AMOUNT $4,000.00Gold

Peisonal Losses of
Anna H. Gloss by "Boxers"

	U.S. Gold.
Horse Furnishings	$500.00
Library	$600.00
Pictures	$200.00
Clothing	$150.00
Medical & scientific apparatus	$150.00
Furnished House at Pei Tai Ho	$2500.00
Total	$4,000.00

Legation of the
United States of America.

Peking, China, October 31st, 1900.

I, Anna D. Gloss, being first duly sworn on oath say that the annexed schedule is a statement of my personal losses incurred by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in the months of June July and August 1900, and that the same is just true and correct. Anna D. Gloss.

Subcribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October, 190

W. E. Beaumont

Second Secretray of Legation.

Personal Losses of
Anna M. Closs by "Boxers"

	Gold
House Furnishings	$500.00
Library	500.00
Pictures	200.00
Clothing	150.00
Medical and scientific apparatus	150.00
Furnished House at Pei Tai Ho.	2500.00.
	4000.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China , October 31st, 1900.

I, Anna D. Gloss, being first duly sworn on oath say that the annexed schedule is a statement of my personal losses incurred by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in the months of June, July and August 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

Anna D. Gloss

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation.

Second Secretray of Legation.

No. 23.

CLAIM OF ALICE TERREL (MISS)

AMOUNT.....$1,625.00 Gold

List of Personal Property belonging to Alice Terrell, destroyed by the Boxers June. 1900

	Gold
Furniture	$ 122.00
House hold furnishings	458.00
Library	600.00
Pictures	50.00
Photographs	50.00
Bicycle	45.00
Clothing	300.00
Total	$ 1625.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China,

I, Alice Terrill, being first duly sworn on oath say that the annexed schedule is a statement of my personal losses incurred by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in the month of June, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct. Alice Terrill

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October 1900.

W. E. Beamburgh

Second Secretary of Legation.

List of personal property belonging to Alice Terrell, destroyed by the "Boxers" June 1900.

	Gold	
Furniture	$122	00
Household furnishings	458	00
Library	600	00
Pictures	50	00
Photographs	50	00
Bicycle	45	00
Clothing	300	00
Total	$1625	00

CRANE S

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, Alice Terrill, being first duly sworn on oath say that the annexed schedule is a statement of my personal losses incurred by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in the month of June, 1900, and that the same is just, true an correct. Alice Terrill

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

Second Secretary of Legation

BY 98
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No. 24.

CLAIM OF MISS ADA HAVEN.

AMOUNT?.....$15 00.00

Chinese Government

to

Ada Haven Dr.

Furniture	267.00
Clothing	196.88
Books, stationery & literary work	556.00
Money lost	94.40
Crockery & china	51.74
Pictures & photo's	111.00
Bedding & house furnishings	88.90
Trunks & boxes	85.00
Sundries	21.60
Lumber &c in house owned	100.00
	1462.52
Margin for things forgotten	37.48
	1500.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, Ada Haven, being first duly sworn, on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the losses actually sustained by me during the month of June 1900, at Peking China as a result of the Boxer disturbances and the said statement is just true and correct.

Ada Haven

Subscribed and swern to before me this 1st day of September 1900.

W. E. Bainbridge

2nd Secretary of Legation

Peking Nov. 1, 1900.

Claim of W. N. Pethick against Chinese Government for damages & loss in his residence in the Hsien Liang Szu Temple (Known as Li Hung-chang's Temple) Peking, by Boxers & Chinese soldiers who broke open & ransacked the rooms.

	Gold $
1 desk, 3 tables, 8 chairs, smashed or stolen	60.-
53 rolls automatic organ music, torn & trampled on. D°3.	159.-
3 folio Vols. Greek statuary, stolen	50.-
4 folio Vols. hand-colored illustrations Japanese & Chinese pictorial Art & porcelains	100.-
5 in. Telescope, tube bent, stand smashed & 3 eyepieces lost	100.-
1 new Binocular Field glass, aluminium mount, used by Capt. Myers, U.S. marines, & smashed by bricks of barricade falling on it	62.-
1 new Telescopic Field glass, stolen by Boxers	70.-
1 Bookcase thrown over, books torn, trampled on & thrown about. 47 vols. ruined & missing	188.-
Wines, stores & Canned provisions carried off by soldiers	120.-
Gold $	909.-

W. N. Pethick
Secretary to H.E. Li Hung-chang.

Legation of the United States of America

Peking, China.

I, W.N.Pethick, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above is a schedule of the personal losses sustained be me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

W.N.Pethick

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of November, 1900.

H. G. Squiers
1st Secretary of Legation



No. 26

CLAIM W. N. PETHICK.

AMOUNT.....GOLD $909.00

No. 457

DIPLOMATIC

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

BUREAU.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
JAN 9 1901
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 7 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 16th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming telegram of this date. Decapitation of Three Chinese officials at Pao-ting-Fu. Probable effect on Court of this punishment will be to delay its return. Progress of negotiations.

No. 451

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 16th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Confirming, on the overleaf, my despatch of this date, I have the honor to report that while the military expedition of the Allied Forces were at Pao-ting-Fu, a court of inquiry was organized, and five Chinese officials were tried, and three of them sentenced to decapitation, viz., Ting Yung, the Provincial Treasurer, who at the time of the murder of the missionaries, last July, was Provincial Judge; Quei Heng, the Chief Tartar Official of the city, and Wang Chan Kuei, a Lieutenant Colonel of the Chinese Army, who, with his command, stood idly by while the murders were committed.

The present Provincial Judge, Shen Chia-Pen, was recommended to be degraded and to be kept under military restraint until the appointment and arrival of his successor.

The Tao-Tai, T'an Wen-Huan, was recommended to be sent

sent to Tientsin for trial.

The sentences were approved by Field Marshal Count Von Waldersee, and on the 6th instant the three first were duly executed.

For their connection with and gross negligence in the presence of the atrocious butchery of the helpless Missionaries these men richly deserved the punishment inflicted; but, under all the circumstances, and in view of the present negotiations for a settlement, I apprehend a wiser course would have been to hold the prisoners for execution by the Chinese Authorities under a peremptory demand by the Powers.

The whole movement has greatly frightened the Court, and will make its early return to Peking more difficult and less probable.

It was known to the Allied Forces sending out this expedition, that orders had been previously given by Li Hung Chang to the Chinese soldiers to make no resistance, and the provincial and city officials at Pao-ting-Fu were instructed to come out and meet them and give them a friendly reception. The Chinese, therefore, think the arrest and

punishment

punishment is rather taking advantage of their confidence, and it will not be surprising if it shall create in the mind of the Court a degree of distrust of any promises the Powers may make as to its safety, in case it returns to Peking.

The Foreign Ministers have been holding frequent meetings, in which the discussions of the proposed terms of settlement have disclosed nearly as many opinions concerning details as there are powers represented. But happily, we have now come to a tentative agreement upon most of the questions. On Monday next, the 19th, we meet again, and I hope we may soon reach a definite agreement upon them all, the which I will promptly and fully report.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

(TELEGRAM SENT)

PEKING, CHINA, NOVEMBER 16, 1900

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIXTEENTH UNDER SENTENCE OF MILITARY COURT APPROVED BY FIELD MARSHAL THE PROVINCIAL TREASURER A TARTAR GENERAL AND A LIEUTENANT COLONEL HAVE BEEN DECAPITATED AT PAOTING FU.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

No. 452

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 8 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D JAN 7 01 DEPT. OF STATE

November 17th, 1900.

It was sent by cablegram Dec. 15, 1900

Enclosed statement of claims and affidavits attached and filed with Bureau of Accounts with vouchers for payment

July 14-1902. Bureau of Accts

Recd Jan. 8.
To J.A.T. Hull
Jany. 8.

See letter to Congressman Hull. Jan 26. 1901

Mr. Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transmitting claims of members of Legation against Chinese Government on account of losses during the siege. Special appropriation by Congress requested.

365 & 18

No. 452

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 17th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

As I have already reported, during the siege, our Legation was occupied much of the time by soldiers and Chinese coolies, and considerable damage done to all the buildings by shells, bullets and by rain through the perforated roofs. My entire residence was given over to the occupancy of the soldiers. But little of the furniture could be removed, and hence was almost entirely destroyed. Beds and bedding were given to the hospital; curtains, table linen, rugs and draperies and everything possible used up for sandbags; my carts, upholstered with silk, were used for hauling rice, flour, coal, bricks and lime, and my horses and mule were turned into the general commissariat and eaten for food. No house in the Legation compound escaped, and everyone connected with the Legation suffered considerable

considerable loss.

We have all made out sworn statements of our individual losses, and I enclose them herein. They will of course be proper subjects for indemnity by the Chinese Government, but since a long time must necessarily elapse before payment can be secured, if ever, from the same, I respectfully request, if consistent with your views, that you will kindly recommend to Congress a special appropriation to pay us for these unique and unexpected losses, for which the Government can be reimbursed whenever the indemnity is collected from China.

I will, in another despatch, send a statement of the articles lost from the office and elsewhere belonging to the Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Claim of E.H. Conger.....$[illegible]
2. .. [illegible].....[illegible]
3. .. W.H. Delmerich..... 870.00
4. .. Fleming D. Chambers..... 250.00

No. 1.

Claim of

Edwin H. Conger.

Amount...$4255.00

Enclosure with Desp. # 452.

Personal Losses of Edwin H. Conger during Boxer riots in Peking June-August, 1900.

.....

1 Mule	$ 90.00
3 Horses	120.00
Saddles, Harness, Halters and Bridles	110.00
Horse Blankets	35.00
Chinese Official Cart damaged	45.00
Foreign " " "	25.00
Furniture lost, destroyed and damaged	360.00
Carpets and Rugs	450.00
Curtains and Portiers	225.00
Table Spreads and Draperies	175.00
Table Linen	300.00
New Goods, Silks etc.	400.00
Bedding, Blankets, Pillows and Towels	240.00
Bed Springs and Matresses	190.00
Clothing	350.00
Cooking Utensils	130.00
Dishes and Glass Ware	375.00
Bric-a-Brac and Curios	380.00
Books	120.00
Pictures	90.00
Clocks	45.00
Total Gold	$4255.00

Legation of the United States of America.
Peking, China.

I, Edwin H. Conger, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

Edwin H. Conger

(Signed) Edwin H. Conger.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of November 1900.

[illegible] 2nd Secretary of Legation

Personal Losses of Edwin H. Conger during Boxer riots in Peking June-August, 1900.

1 Mule	$ 90.00
3 Horses	120.00
Saddles, Harness, Halters and Bridles	110.00
Horse Blankets	35.00
Chinese Official Cart damaged	45.00
Foreign " " "	25.00
Furniture lost, destroyed and damaged	560.00
Carpets and Rugs	450.00
Curtains and Portiers	225.00
Table Spreads and Draperies	175.00
Table Linen	300.00
New Goods, Silks etc.	400.00
Bedding, Blankets, Pillows and Towels	240.00
Bed Springs and Mattresses	180.00
Clothing	350.00
Cooking Utensils	130.00
Dishes and Glass Ware	375.00
Bric-a-Brac and Curios	380.00
Books	120.00
Pictures	90.00
Clocks	45.00
Total Gold	$4255.00

Legation of the United States of America.

Peking, China.

I, Edwin H. Conger, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

Edwin H. Conger

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of November 1900.

Secretary of Legation

PERSONAL LOSSES OF HERBERT G. SQUIERS DURING BOXER RIOTS IN PE KING JUNE-AUGUST, 1900.

Stores,		$800.00
Rent on Temple in Western Hills,		$425.00
Four Horses,		$160.00
2 Donkeys,		40.00
Linen,		50.00
Clothing,		200.00
Kitchen Utensils,		50.00
China and Glass,		50.00
Halters, saddles, etc,		50.00
Total	U.S.Gold	$1,825.00

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKING, CHINA.

I, Herbert G. Squiers, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a re sult of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

(signed) H. G. Squiers

Subscribed and sworn to before me
This 9th day of November, 1900.

W. W. Rockhill

Second Secretary of Legation.

PERSONAL LOSSES OF HERBERT G. SQUIERS DURING BOXER RIOTS
IN PEKING JUNE-AUGUST, 1900.

Stores,		$800.00
Rent on Temple in Western Hills,		$425.00
Four Horses,		$160.00
2 Donkeys,		40.00
Linen,		80.00
Clothing,	" "	200.00
Kitchen Utensils,		50.00
China and Glass,		80.00
Mattress, saddles, etc,		50.00
Total	U.S.Gold	$1,825.00

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKING, CHINA.

I, Herbert G. Squiers, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the Personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

(signed) H. G. Squiers

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This 9th day of November, 1900.

Second Secretary of Legation.

No 3.

CLAIM W. E. BAINBRIDGE.

AMOUNT.....$379.50 Gold.

Personal Property of William E. Bainbridge lost or destroyed during the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900.

.....

Rental, temple prepaid	$37.50
Stores	20.00
Shoes	15.00
Sofa damaged	6.00
Two silk waists	18.00
Books and Music	10.00
Dishes and Glassware	15.00
Clothing	40.00
Linens	40.00
Brussels carpet damaged	25.00
Table Cover	6.00
Sofa cover	10.00
Two chairs	10.00
Two hats	18.00
Lamp	9.00
Lace curtains	15.00
Chenille curtains	10.00
Two oil cloth covers	5.00
Five sofa pillows	5.00
Netting	4.00
One gold watch	40.00
Silver belt buckle	$ 6.00
Total Gold	$379.50

Legation of the United States of America,
Peking, China.

I, William E. Bainbridge, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above is a schedule of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct. William E. Bainbridge

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of November 1900.

H. G. Squiers
1st Sec. of Legation

Personal Property of William R. Bainbridge lost or destroyed during the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900.

.....

Rental, temple prepaid	$37.50
Stores	20.00
Shoes	18.00
Sofa damaged	6.00
Two silk waists	18.00
Books and Music	10.00
Dishes and Glassware	18.00
Clothing	40.00
Linens	40.00
Brussels carpet damaged	25.00
Table Cover	6.00
Sofa cover	10.00
Two chairs	10.00
Two hats	18.00
Lamp	9.00
Lace curtains	15.00
Chenille curtains	10.00
Two oil cloth covers	5.00
Five sofa pillows	5.00
Matting	4.00
One gold watch	40.00
Silver belt buckle	$ 6.00

Total Gold $377.50

Legation of the United States of America,
Peking, China.

I, William R. Bainbridge, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above is a schedule of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the Boxer riots in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

William R. Bainbridge

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of November 1900.

C. J. Dyer

Ltr. Rec. 01 Repeating

No. 4.

Claim of

Fleming D. Cheshire.

Amount.....$530.00

Personal losses of Fleming D, Cheshire, during "Boxer" riots in Peking June-August, I900.

.....

Stores,	$ I50,00
Bedding,	50,00
Linnen,	25,00
Kitchen Utensils,	25,00
Clothing,	I75,00
China,	25,00
Curios,	75,00
Jewelry,	~~5,00~~
U, S, Gold	$550 ,00

Legation of the United States of America,
Peking, China,

I, Fleming D, Cheshire, being first duly sworn on oath say that the above schedule is a statement of the personal losses sustained by me during and as a result of the "Boxer" riots in Peking, June-August, I900, and that the same is just, true and correct.

Fleming D Cheshire

Subscribed and sworn to before me
This 16th day of November, I900.

W. E. Bainbridge
Second Secretary of Legation.

Personal losses of Fleming D. Chesnire, during "Boxer"
in Peking June-August, 1900.

.....

s,	$ 150.00
ng,	80.00
n,	25.00
en Utensils,	25.00
ing,	175.00
,	25.00
s,	75.00
y,	5.00
U. S. Gold	$530.00

ion of the United States of America,
Peking, China,

I, Fleming D. Chesnire, being first duly sworn on
say that the above schedule is a statement of the persona
s sustained by me during and as a result of the "Boxer"
in Peking, June-August, 1900, and that the same is just,
and correct.

Fleming D. Chesnire

Subscribed and sworn to before me
This 16 day of November, 1900.

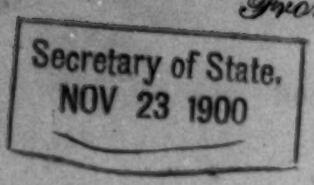
W. R. Carr Bridge.
Second Secretary of Legation.

No. 282.

File

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.





From Peking,

November 19th, 1900.

Received via Taku, 10.47 PM

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Nineteenth. New Imperial Decree, November 13th, fixes punishment persons mentioned Imperial Decree September 25th. Punishment in every case totally inadequate, and is considered by Diplomatic Corps as farcical.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk.

November 20, 9.20 AM *190* , *M.*

No. 453.

DIPLOMATIC, JAN 22 11 BUREAU.

add file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PEKIN, CHINA.

2D. ASSISTANT SECRETARY, JAN 22 1901

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. JAN 21'01 DEPT. OF STATE

November 20th, 1900.

Secretary of State. JAN 22 1901

Ackd Jan. 26

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Triad rebellion in South China. United States Consul at Canton reports it has collapsed. Serious consequences of in case of spread.

No. 459

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 20th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

For some time the news of rebellion and uprising in the South of China have been rather alarming, and old residents have been predicting a repetition of history, saying the Triads would probably move just as the Tai-pings did in 1861. Should this prove true, and general rebellion spread to the North, the condition of the Court would be very precarious, and this situation would make an early settlement with the Powers very difficult, if not impossible. But in reply to inquiries, Consul McWade telegraphs that the Triads and Pirates are numerous, but that the rebellion has collapsed; and the British Consuls at Canton and Swatow report that there is continuous plotting by K'ang Yiu Wei's friends in Hongkong, and consequently numerous rumors emanate from there, but that there is no serious danger at present. We are,

therefore,

more hopeful.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, ———

Your obedient servant,

E. A. Conger

No. 454

DIPLOMATIC,

JAN 23 19[illegible]

Secretary of State.

JAN 22 1901

Ack of file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

PEKIN, CHINA,

November 20th, 1900.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

Ack
Feb. 16

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject : Confirming Legation's telegram of 19th instant.

Punishment of guilty Chinese officials as published in Imperial Decree of 13th of Novembe r, 1900, grossly inadequate.

No. 454

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 20th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm on the overleaf my telegram of the 19th instant, and also to enclose* a copy of the decree therein mentioned. The punishments are all grossly inadequate, and by no means commensurate with the crimes. Prince Tuan, the chief patron of the Boxers, and the responsible leader of the movement, is only stripped of his titles, and banished (?) to Moukden, the capital of Manchuria. The other princes are treated still more leniently. The two members of the Tsung Li Yamen, Yêng Nien and Chao Chu-Chiao, who were also patrons of the Boxers, and directors of their movements, are simply degraded, but remain in their high offices. Yu Hsien is punished a little more severely, but since he himself is responsible for the commencement

*See despatch No. 604, dated April 8, 1901, for this enclosure. — J. J. C. Mdy 23, 1901

commencement of the Boxer movement in Shantung, and later for the murder of our Missionaries in Shansi, and of which he, as governor of that province, boasts, nothing but death is a fit punishment for him. X X X

The decree seems to us here, who are familiar with the facts, as a huge joke. The Chinese certainly have no comprehension of the gravity of the situation, nor of the fearful responsibility they have incurred, and for which they must be held to a strict accounting.

It has gone out that the death penalty will be exacted for all of these men, and somehow the Chinese Plenipotentiaries know it, and if we fail in its final accomplishment, they will count it as a victory for them, and it will make all subsequent demands or negotiations much more difficult.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE; WASHINGTON.

NINETEENTH. NEW IMPERIAL DECREE NOVEMBER 13TH FIXES PUNISHMENT PERSONS MENTIONED IMPERIAL DECREE SEPTEMBER 25TH. PUNISHMENT IN EVERY CASE TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND IS CONSIDERED BY DIPLOMATIC CORPS AS FARCICAL.

(SIGNED)

CONGER.

No. 455

DIPLOMATIC
FEB 1 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU RECD JAN 21'01 DEPT. OF STATE

Secretary of State. FEB 1 1901

November 20th, 1900.

Acked Feb. 16

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject : Confirming Department's telegram of 16th instant. Instructions as to reformation of Tsung li Yamen, Peking a treaty port, demand for posthumous honors for certain Chinese, and naval station, will be complied with. Doubts wisdom of demand for punishment of all guilty officials at this time. Use of word "ultimatum" in preliminary treaty. Difficulty in obtaining unanimous action of Diplomatic Body on all points.

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE; WASHINGTON.

NINETEENTH. NEW IMPERIAL DECREE

NOVEMBER 13TH FIXES PUNISHMENT PERSONS MENTIONED IMPERIAL

DECREE SEPTEMBER 25TH. PUNISHMENT IN EVERY CASE TOTALLY INAD-

EQUATE AND IS CONSIDERED BY DIPLOMATIC CORPS AS FARCICAL.

(SIGNED)

CONGER.

No. 458

DIPLOMATIC
FEB 1 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D
JAN 21'01
DEPT OF STATE

Secretary of State.
FEB 1 1901

November 20th, 1900.

Acked Feb. 16

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject : Confirming Department's telegram of 16th instant. Instructions as to reformation of Tsung li Yamen, Peking a treaty port, demand for posthumous honors for certain Chinese, and naval station, will be complied with. Doubts wisdom of demand for punishment of all guilty officials at this time. Use of word "ultimatum" in preliminary treaty. Difficulty in obtaining unanimous action of Diplomatic Body on all points.

No. 455

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 20th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State ,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your cipher telegram of the 16th instant.

When we reach the matter of reformation of the Tsung li Yamen, I will present the requirement that the Minister for foreign affairs shall be able to speak some foreign language. But I fear this will limit the choice to a very small number of mostly young men, and preclude the selection of the stronger, better educated men of China. If there were a class like Mr Wu Ting Fang to draw from, there would be no danger in such a requirement, but unfortunately there is not.

We are discussing the question of Peking as a treaty port, but in order to reach an agreement on the

preliminary

preliminary demands, I fear this will have to be deferred to a later period in the negotiations.

As to the demand for posthumous honors, I have conferred with my colleagues, and I find that this too must come later in the negotiations, if at all. With the exception of Chang-Yu-Huan, it is not known how thoroughly the others interested themselves in foreigners or foreign affairs. So far as our relation with them at the Tsung li Yamen was concerned, their friendship toward foreigners was notable only in contrast with the intense anti-foreign sentiments of their colleagues. I will urge the agreement upon a lump sum for indemnity, at the proper time, and think if that plan can be adopted it will expedite final settlement. I have from the start, tried to make the preliminary demands as general and as simple as possible in order to avoid asking impossible terms which might defeat the purposes aimed at. I have been afraid that if we demand, in the beginning, the death of <u>all</u> the strong men surrounding the Court, their execution will be impossible, because there will be nobody to perform the work, and it is hardly to be expected they will execute themselves.

General Tung Fu-Hsiang has command of all the troops with the Court, and is practically master of the situation,

situation, and I have urged my colleagues to leave his name out of the first demand, so that he might carry out the Imperial order for the execution of the others; but my colleagues are unanimous in their insistence that in view of the leading part he and his troops have taken in the whole anti-foreign movement, that his name must be included in the very first demand, and, if the impossibility of compliance is made evident, some different arrangement can be made as the negotiations progress.

You will observe from this, that the word "ultimatum" which I have used in my telegrams, is not to be taken in its usual sense, of meaning a fixed period within which demands must be complied with or hostilities will begin, but rather as an irrevocable decision, with a sort of mental reservation, that, in case of meeting actual impossibilities, it may be slightly changed. We have found it rather difficult to secure an agreement of the ten Ministers upon all points, so, several compromises have had to be made. We have, however, finally agreed in principle upon all the points named in my telegrams, except the one which requires China to agree to adopt such financial measures as the Powers may indicate, to guarantee the payment of the said indemnities, and the interest on the public loan. (To this

the

the Russian Minister is strenuously opposed, and the French Minister joins him, as is his practice upon nearly every question. The reason he gives for his opposition is, that it is not properly a subject for preliminary negotiation, but should be taken up hereafter. But I apprehend his real objection is based upon the fear that the result will be to give some other Power a greater influence than Russia over Chinese affairs. His action throughout seems to indicate opposition to any measure that will strengthen China. All the rest of us are agreed that the demand is a very important one, and should be insisted upon, for if, as is very probable, the Powers should eventually conclude to assist China in any financial way, they should be certain that such foreign supervision of her finances as may be necessary, will be of right allowed.

The English and German Ministers have been instructed to insist upon this demand, and I, fully appreciating its importance, and believing my instructions warrant it, shall also so insist for the present. I have very fully advised with Mr Rockhill, and our views are in accord.

Concerning a naval station, I am afraid the time is not opportune, but I shall bear the matter in mind, and, if possible, before a final settlement is made with the

United

States, will take the matter up in earnest. To me a naval station for us somewhere on this coast seems very important, and I have heretofore recommended it; but I suppose the Department is aware that Japan claims a sort of a mortgage right to the Province of Fu Kien, and it is understood China has agreed that if any part of the province is to be alienated, it shall be to Japan. However, something may possibly be done when we come to probable separate negotiations between China and the United States.

I fully appreciate the importance of a speedy termination of negotiations. Trade is at a standstill. The revenues of China are falling off at the rate of half a million dollars per month; the expense of these great armies is adding so rapidly to her liabilities, that soon it will be impossible for her to pay. Practically all missionary work is suspended, the business of our manufacturers and exporters at home is suffering, and unexpected internal disturbances may arise to further complicate matters at any time. Yet I think no settlement should be made that is not reasonably comprehensive, with an assurance of permanency, and adequate guarantees for the future.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. (CIPHER)

CONGER, PEKING.

TRY TO ARRANGE IF POSSIBLE BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS CLOSE THAT THE CHINESE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SPEAK SOME FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND THAT PEKING MAY BE MADE A TREATY PORT. FAVOR LUMP SUM FOR INDEMNITY DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE POWERS TO BE AFTERWARDS ARRANGED POSSIBLY BY ARBITRATION. I REPEAT SUGGESTION AS TO POSTHUMOUS HONORS TO THE THREE FRIENDLY CHINESE. CAN STATE IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO PROVIDE AGAINST ARBITRARY EXECUTION OF HIGH OFFICERS OF STATE WITHOUT TRIAL. ALWAYS KEEP IN VIEW AND URGE IN CONFERENCE THE CONSIDERATION THAT IMPOSSIBLE TERMS MUST NOT BE ASKED WHICH WOULD ONLY DEFEAT THE PURPOSES AIMED AT.

MOST CONFIDENTIAL. NAVY DEPARTMENT ANXIOUS TO ACQUIRE NAVAL STATION AT SAMSA INLET NORTH PART FUKIEN. DO WHAT YOU CAN TO ARRANGE THIS; AND IF NOT FEASIBLE AT PRESENT BE ON YOUR GUARD AGAINST ANY PREEMPTION BY ANOTHER POWER. NOVEMBER SIXTEENTH.

(SIGNED) HAY.

DIPLOMATIC,
NOV 23 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU REC'D. 23 NOV 1900 DEPT. OF STATE

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY, Ans'd by telegram Nov 23. Confirm both. NOV 23 1900 aka

From Peking,

November 21, 1900.

Received via Taku, 10.37 PM

November 22, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-first. Russian Minister still opposes second proposition my telegram November 6th. The English Minister and German Minister have been instructed for the present not to sign note without it. I deem it one of the most important demands. Instruct me fully upon suggestion contained last paragraph my telegram ~~26th~~ sixth, your cipher telegram 9th not covering this point. I am anxiously awaiting a reply.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

November 23, 10.45 AM 190 , M.

No. 456

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1901
BUREAU.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 23rd, 1900.

✓ Acknowledge
To War Dept.
Jan. 24
State

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of War.

Subject: Enclosing report of Colonel J. S. Mallory, military attache', on smuggling of arms and ammunition into the Philippines, for transmission to the Secretary of War.

(No. 445, November 13th, 1900.)

No. 456

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 23rd, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 445, of November 13th, instant, I have the honor to enclose herewith report of Colonel J. S. Mallory, Military Attache, with reference to movements of the Filipina Junta, and efforts made by it to ship arms and ammunition into the Philippines, - for transmission to the Secretary of War.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

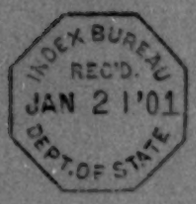
E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

1. Report of Colonel Mallory as above.

No. 457

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



November 23rd, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of instructions No. 286, October 11th, 1900, enclosing copy of French proposals as basis of settlement between Powers and Chinese Government.

(No. 447, November 14th, 1900)

No. 457

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November ~~14th~~ 23d, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 447, of the 14th instant, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of instructions No. 286, of October 11th, last, enclosing printed copy of a recent correspondence between the Department and the French Charge d'Affaires touching proposals of French Government respecting the basis of the settlement to be negotiated between the Powers and the Chinese Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Secretary of State.
DEC 29 1900

File

From PEKING,

Confidential

November 23, 1900.

Received 2:50 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-third. Your confidential telegram concerning naval station has been received. I will opportunely do what I can, but in view of our declared policy it would be unfortunate to mention the subject in any way until after general negotiations are completed. Even then China-Japan Agreement will make it necessary to consult Japan. Is Samsa is impossible would not Chusan with the consent of England answer the purpose?

CONGER.

Chusan (See despatch from Peking No. 458 - Nov. 26, 1900).

ciphered by Miss Greer

9.30 am Nov 26, 1900, M.

PEKING,

November 23, 1900.

Received 2:30 A. M.

Secretary of State,

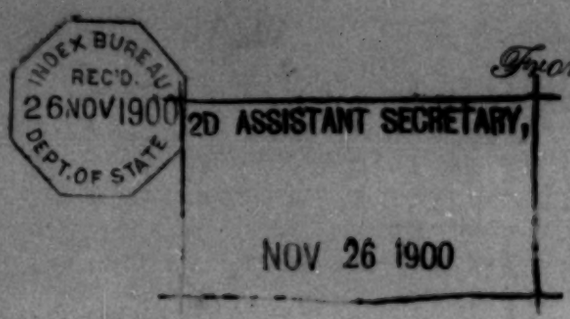
Washington.

Twenty-third. Your confidential telegram concerning naval station has been received. I will opportunely do what I can, but in view of our declared policy it would be unfortunate to mention the subject in any way until after general negotiations are completed. Even then Chine-Japan Agreement will make it necessary to consult Japan. In Sanen in impossible would not Chanan with the consent of England answer the purpose?

C O U S E R.

File

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.



From Peking,

November 24, 1900.

Received 3.30 A. M., 25th.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-fourth. All the Ministers have agreed unanimously to the demands enumerated in my telegrams October 26th, November 1st, 6th, 21st. See also my telegram of the 23rd. We now only wait for some of them to receive instructions to sign the joint note.

CONGER

Deciphered by the Chief Clerk.

November 26, 9.25 AM 190 , M.

PEKING.

November 23, 1900.

Received 2:30 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-fourth. All the Ministers have agreed unanimously to the demands enumerated in my telegrams October 25th. November 1st. 9th. 21st. See also my telegram of the 21st. We anxiously wait for some of them to receive instructions to sign the joint note.

No. 282.

File

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.



From Peking.

November 25, 1900.

Received 3.15 A. M.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-third. Your telegram of the 20th has been received. All my colleagues are of the opinion that capital punishment can be inflicted on all persons named, with the possible exception of Tong-fuh Siang, who may be needed to punish others. They insist, however, in mentioning his name in original demand, but are disposed to modify it as regards him after presentation to Chinese Plenipotentiaries and a satisfactory demonstration by the Chinese Government of its inability [to] carry out sentence in his case. I will do everything possible for speedy conclusion of negotiations.

C O N G E R

Ciphered by the Chief Clerk

_____, *190* , *M.*

No. 458

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 28 19[illegible]
BUREAU.

Archives
No

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 26th, 1900.

Archives
Feb. 23

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's cipher telegrams of 19th, 20th and 23rd instants, and Legation's of 21st and 23rd instants. Peace negotiations.

No. 458

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 26th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, the Department's telegrams of the 19th, 20th and 23rd instant, and mine of the 21st and 23rd instant,

and to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Tel 11/23

TELEGRAMS RECEIVED. (CIPHER)

CONGER, PEKING.

NINETEENTH. STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. SUPPLEMENTARY RECENT CABLE, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY EARNESTLY ASKS IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF A NAVAL STATION ON THE CHINESE COAST IN THE EVENT OF FUTURE WAR THAT YOU TAKE FIRST FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN FOR THE UNITED STATES FREE AND EXCLUSIVE USE OF SAMSA (Naval) BAY AS A PROPOSED PORT WITH THE ADDITIONAL PLEDGE THAT A CIRCULAR ZONE TWENTY MILES IN RADIUS WITH ITS CENTER AT THE EASTERN POINT OF CRAG ISLAND SHALL NOT IN FUTURE BE ALIENATED TO CONTROLLED OR USED BY ANY OTHER POWER NOR ANY FORTIFICATIONS BE ERECTED THEREON BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

CONGER, PEKING.

TWENTIETH. THE PRESIDENT IS MOST SOLICITOUS THAT THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS SHALL NOT FAIL EITHER BY REASON OF A LACK OF HARMONIOUS CO-OPERATION AMONGST THE POWERS OR THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF DEMANDS WITH WHICH IT MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR CHINA TO COMPLY. CONFIDING IN YOUR WISDOM AND (EXPERT) EXPERIENCE HE

Continued on 2, 1900 C.

(as to details)

HE HAS LEFT YOU A LARGE DISCRETION AND PREFERS STILL TO FOLLOW THAT COURSE. HE DIRECTS ME HOWEVER TO ASK YOU TO CONSULT WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES AND SERIOUSLY TO INQUIRE WHETHER THE PRESENTATION OF A LIST OF HIGH CHINESE OFFICIALS AND THE DEMAND FOR THEIR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AS AN ULTIMATUM MAY NOT RESULT IN A FAILURE OF NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH A CONFESSION OF INABILITY ON THE PART OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT ALL THESE DEATH SENTENCES. WE IN COMMON WITH THE OTHER POWERS DESIRE AND MUST EXACT THE SEVERE AND EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT OF THOSE HIGH OFFICIALS WHOSE CRIMES HAVE SHOCKED THE CIVILIZED WORLD. BUT IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF THE POWERS HAVING PUT FORTH AN ULTIMATUM TO WHICH CHINA MAY POSSIBLY NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE EFFECT, SHOULD BE COMPELLED EITHER TO WITHDRAW THEIR DEMANDS OR TO ENFORCE THEM BY A COURSE OF ACTION WHICH THEY ALL DEPRECATE AND WHICH WOULD ENTAIL CONSEQUENCES WHICH NO ONE CAN FORESEE. THE SAME CONSIDERATIONS ALSO APPLY TO THE QUESTION OF THE AMOUNT OF INDEMNITY TO BE DEMANDED. THE PRESIDENT FAVORS THE EXACTION OF A LUMP SUM NOT BEYOND THE ABILITY OF CHINA TO PAY TO BE HEREAFTER EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE POWERS (interested P. IN THE FIRST PLACE). HE

DIRECT

DIRECTS ME TO REPEAT THE INSTRUCTIONS ALREADY FREQUENTLY GIVEN THAT YOU WILL USE EVERY ENDEAVOR TO BRING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO A SPEEDY AND SATISFACTORY CLOSE IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS WHICH MAY RESULT FROM LONG DELAY.

(SIGNED) HAY.

////////////////////

CONGER, PEKING.

TWENTY-THIRD. ANSWERING YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM TWENTY-FIRST WE FAVOR SECOND PROPOSITION YOUR TELEGRAM OF THE SIXTH BUT DO NOT DESIRE TO EMBARRASS GENERAL NEGOTIATIONS BY INSISTING UPON IT. IF BY SUGGESING LAST PARAGRAPH YOUR TELEGRAM OF THE SIXTH YOU MEAN CONTINGENCY OF SEPARATE CONVENTION BETWEEN CHINA AND THE POWERS AGREEING TO THE THREE CONDITIONS WE THINK FO CHINA TO SUPPOSE SEPARATE TREATIES POSSIBLE MIGHT SERIOUSLY OBSTRUCT GENERAL CONVENTION UPON POINTS CONCERNING WHICH ALL THE POWERS AGREE. GENERAL CONVENTION IS OF THE FIRST IMPORTANCE. THAT CONCLUDED EACH POWER HAS OF COURSE LIBERTY NEGOTIATE UPON POINTS NOT EXPRESSED THEREIN.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

TELEGRAMS SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

TWENTY-FIRST. RUSSIAN MINISTER STILL OPPOSES SECOND PROPOSITION MY TELEGRAM NOVEMBER 6TH. THE ENGLISH MINISTER AND GERMAN MINISTER HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED FOR THE PRESENT NOT TOSIGN NOTE WITHOUT IT. I DEEM IT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS. INSTRUCT ME FULLY UPON SUGGESTION CONTAINED IN LAST PARAGRAPH MY TELEGRAM SIXTH. YOUR CIPHER TELEGRAM NINTH NOT COVERING THIS POINT. I am anxiously awaiting a reply.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

Continued to Mr. Conger No. 1 Nov. 27, 1900 C.

.....

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

TWENTY-THIRD. YOUR CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAM CONCERNING NAVAL STATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED. I WILL OPPORTUNELY DO WHAT I CAN BUT IN VIEW OF OUR DECLARED POLICY IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE TO MENTION THE SUBJECT IN ANY WAY UNTIL AFTER GENERAL NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETED. EVEN THEN CHINA JAPAN AGREEMENT WILL MAKE IT NECESSARY TO CONSULT JAPAN IF SAMSA IS IMPOSSIBLE WOULD NOT CHUSAN WITH THE CONSENT OF ENGLAND ANSWER THE PURPOSE.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

.....

SECSTATE, WASHINGTON.

TWENTY-THIRD. YOUR TELEGRAM OF THE 20TH HAS BEEN RECEIVED. ALL MY COLLEAGUES ARE OF THE OPINION THAT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT CAN BE INFLICTED ON ALL PERSONS NAMED WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF TUNG FU-HSIANG, WHO MAY BE NEEDED TO PUNISH OTHERS. THEY INSIST HOWEVER IN MENTIONING HIS NAME IN ORIGINAL DEMAND BUT ARE DISPOSED TO MODIFY IT AS REGARDS HIM AFTER PRESENTATION TO CHINESE PLENIPOTENTIARIES AND A SATISFACTORY DEMONSTRATION BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT OF ITS ABILITY TO CARRY OUT SENTENCE IN HIS CASE.

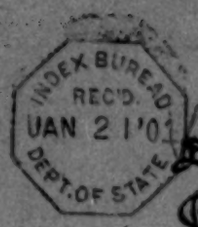
I WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE FOR SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

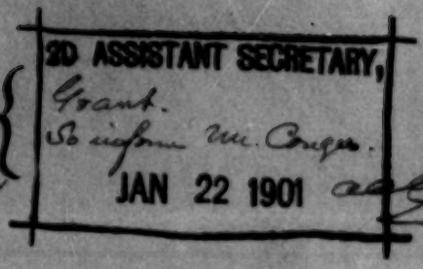
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 26th, 1900.

To the Honorable
John Hay,
Secratary of State,
Washington, D, C.



Dec. to Jan. 24



Sir:-

I have the honor to request leave of absence for sixty days, with permission to visit the United States, at some convenient time during the coming spring or summer.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger.

Approved
E. H. Conger
U. S. Minister.

No. 459

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1901
BUREAU.

Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

ask file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack. French text as signed should be furnished to the Department if not already sent
JAN 22 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 26th, 1900.

Rec'd Jan. 26

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Transmitting copy of preliminary agreement which has been agreed to by all the Foreign Representatives. Points on which United States Minister disagreed with his colleagues.

No. 459

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 26th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm on the overleaf my telegram of the twenty-fourth instant, and to enclose a copy of the note setting forth the demands which it is proposed to present to the Chinese plenipotentiaries, either jointly or in identic notes. Some of the ministers have not been instructed whether to sign joint or identic notes. I am aware that ordinarily our Government is not in favor of joint action with European Powers, but this is so plainly a world-wide question, and the necessity of strengthening our demands by unanimity, as well as by every other means, is so apparent; and being convinced that a joint note will be much more effective than separate notes, and will consequently hasten the final settlement which the President and yourself justly deem so important, I have felt myself authorized to sign a joint note, and shall do so, if all the other ministers are

so

No. 454

so authorized. If not, we will send in identic notes.

The agreement of the Russian Minister to the last paragraph of demand No. 5 was obtained by employing the words "measures acceptable to" instead of "indicated by" the foreign powers."

There have been some concessions made by each minister in order that we might reach an agreement. In consequence, the demands are not exactly in accordance with the letter of your instructions, but are as near with their spirit as seemed possible to come to an agreement upon. I tried to have no names mentioned in connection with the death penalties, simply saying "all those mentioned in the Decree of September 25th, and such others as should be designated." Then I tried to have the name of Tung Fu Hsiang left out, in order to have him and his soldiers to punish the others. I also urged the dismantling, instead of razing, the Taku forts. But I was almost alone on all these propositions, and to have insisted upon them would have delayed indefinitely the negotiations. Therefore in order to facilitate negotiations, and secure the agreement of my colleagues to other important propositions, so that neogtiations might begin, I yielded on these. If, therefore, the governments all approve and authorize their representatives to sign, we

ought

ought to be ready to meet the Chinese plenipotentiaries in a very few days.

Besides the commercial and other reasons for an early beginning of negotiations heretofore mentioned, it is important, in order to stop the military excursions being continually made into the interior by the European troops. In my judgment most of these are not necessary, and are greatly injuring the prospects of any satisfactory settlement.

Although the note as enclosed has been definitely agree upon, it is possible that by the direction of some of the governments, changes may be necessary. Should this, however, occur, I will immediately inform you.

I have the honor to be ,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure: Copy of proposed preliminary agreement.

TELEGRAM SENT (CIPHER)

SECSTATE

WASHINGTON

TWENTY-FOURTH ALL MINISTERS HAVE AGREED UNANIMOUSLY TO THE DEMANDS ENUMERATED IN MY TELEGRAMS OCTOBER 26th; NOVEMBER 1st, 6th, 21st SEE ALSO MY TELEGRAM OF 23rd. WE NOW ONLY WAIT FOR SOME OF THEM TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGN THE JOINT NOTE.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

Translation of Amended Text.

.....

During the months of May, June, July and August of the present year serious disturbances broke out in the northern provinces of China, and crimes unheard of in human history, crimes against the law of nations, against the laws of humanity and against civilisation were committed under particularly odious circumstances. The principal of these crimes were the following:-

1. On the 20th June H.E.Baron von Ketteler, Minister of Germany, proceeding to the Tsung-li Yamen was murdered while in the exercise of his functions by soldiers of the regular army acting under orders of their chiefs.

2. The same day the Foreign Legations were attacked and besieged, these attacks being continued without interruption until the 14th August, on which date the army of foreign troops put an end to them. These (attacks) were made by regular troops who joined the Boxers and who obeyed orders of the Court emanating from the Imperial Palace. At the same time the Chinese Government was declaring officially through its representatives near the Powers that it guaranteed the security of the Legations.

3. A member of the Legation of Japan in the discharge of an official mission was killed by regulars at the gates of the city. In Peking and in several provinces foreigners were assassinated, tortured, or were attacked by Boxers and regular troops, and only owed their salvation to their determined resistance. Their establishments were pillaged and destroyed.

4. Foreign cemeteries, particularly in Peking, have been desecrated, the tombs opened, the remains scattered.

These events led the foreign Powers to send their troops to China to protect the lives of their Representatives and their nationals and to restore order. In their march on Peking the allied forces met with the resistance of the Chinese armies and had to overcome it by force.

China having recognized its responsibility, expressed its regrets and manifested the desire to see an end put to the situation created by the disorders referred to, the Powers have resolved to accede to its request on the irrevocable conditions enumerated below, which they deem indispensable to expiate the crimes committed and prevent their recurrence.

1. (a) Despatch to Berlin of an extraordinary mission led by an imperial prince to express the regrets of H.M. the Emperor of China and of the Chinese Government for the murder of H.E. the late Baron von Ketteler, Minister of Germany.

(b). Erection on the place of the murder of a commemorative monument worthy of the rank of the deceased, bearing an inscription in the latin, german and chinese languages, expressing the regrets of the Emperor of China for the murder.

2. (a) Death penalty for Princes Tuan and Chuang, Duke Lan, Yien Nien, Kang Yi, Chao Chu-chiao, Tung Fu-hsiang and Yu Hsien and those whom the representatives of the Powers shall later on designate. Exemplary punishment proportionate to their crimes, for the other personages named in the Imperial decree of September 25, 1900 and for those whom the Representatives of the Powers shall later on designate.

(b) Suspension of all official examinations for 5 years in all the cities in which foreigners have been massacred or have been subjected to cruel treatment.

3. An expiatory monument shall be erected by the Imperial Chinese Government in each of the foreign or international cemeteries which have been desecrated and in which the tombs have been destroyed.

4. Maintenance, under conditions to be settled between the Powers, of the interdiction of the importation of arms as well as of material for the manufacturing of arms and munitions.

5. Equitable indemnities for the Governments, so-

cieties and individuals as well as for the Chinese who have suffered during the late events in person or in property, on account of their being in the service of foreigners.

China shall adopt financial measures acceptable to the Powers for the purpose of guaranteeing the payment of said indemnities and the interest on loans.

6. Right for each Power to organize a permanent guard for its legation and to put the diplomatic quarter in a state of defense. Chinese shall not have the right to reside in this quarter.

7. The forts of Taku and those which could prevent free communication between Peking and the sea shall be razed.

8. Right to occupy militarily certain points to be settled on by an understanding between the Powers for keeping open communication between the capital and the sea.

9. The Chinese Government shall have posted during two years in all sub-prefectures an imperial decree stating:-

(a) perpetual prohibition under pain of death from belonging to any anti-foreign society;

(b) enumeration of the punishments which shall have been inflicted on the guilty, together with the suspension of all official examinations in the cities where foreigners have been murdered or have been subjected to cruel treatment;

(c) An imperial edict shall be made and published throughout the Empire declaring that the Governors-General and Governors and all provincial or local officials shall be responsible for order in their jurisdictions and that in case of fresh troubles or other infractions of treaties and in case of acts of hostility against foreigners which shall not have been immediately repressed and the guilty persons punished, these officers shall be at once removed from office and may not be recalled to new functions or receive new honors.

10. The Chinese Government pledges itself to negotiate the amendments deemed useful by the Foreign Representatives to the treaties of commerce and navigation, and other subjects relating to commercial relations with the object of facilitating them.

11. The Chinese Government pledges itself to reform the office of Foreign Affairs and to modify the Court ceremonial concerning the reception of Foreign Representatives in the sense which the Powers shall indicate.

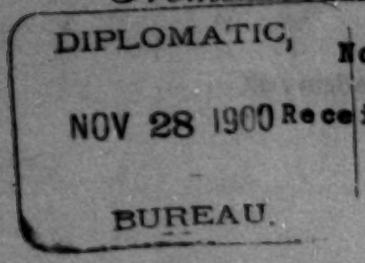
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Form No. 282.

Confirm + file

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.





From Peking.

November 27, 1900.

Received 9.38 P. M.

Confirm Doc 3

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Twenty-seventh. Russian Prince Oukhtomsky is here, evidently as adviser of Chinese plenipotentiaries.

CONGER

Deciphered by J.R.B., Chief Clerk's Office

November 28, 9.55 A.M., 190 , M.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1901
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
BUREAU.
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

Dispatch
Jan 24

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Grant.
So inform Mr. Conger, who will see that Mr. Squiers
JAN 22 1901
and Mr. Chester's absences
do not last to the detriment
of the service.

November 28th, 1900.

Mr Squiers to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Applies for leave of absence for sixty days with permission to visit the United States.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 28th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to apply for leave of absence for sixty days, with permission to visit the United States, to be availed of during the coming year, subject to the approval of the Minister.

I also beg to state that owing to the recent disturbances, I did not take advantage of the permission to visit the United States granted me by Department's instructions No. 218, dated November 24th, 1899.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. A. Squiers

Secretary of Legation.

No. 460

DIPLOMATIC BUREAU
JAN 22

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
To Secy of War.
Ack & file. asg
JAN 22 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

November 30th, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Ackd and
To War Dept
Jan. 24
C

Subject: Enclosing report of Colonel J. S. Mallory, military attaché, with reference to movements of Filipina Junta, for transmission to Secretary of War.

No. 460

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 456, November 23rd, instant, I have the honor to enclose herewith, at the request of Colonel John S. Mallery, 41st United States Volunteers, Military Attache, for transmission to the Secretary of War, further report on the movements of the Filipina Junta,

and to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure: Report as above.

No. 461

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 '01
BUREAU.

Acknowledged

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

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Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

November 30th, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
JAN 22 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Enclosing copy of identic notes sent Chinese Plenipotentiaries, protesting against Tung Fu-hsiang's presence at Court, and against honors conferred upon Li Ping-heng.

No. 461

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

November 30th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose copy of two communications which I addressed to the Peace Commissioners on the 19th and 27th of November, respectively. Identic notes were also sent by my colleagues.

1. 2

The first was sent because it was considered by the Diplomatic Body that in view of the active part taken by Tung Fu-hsiang in the attempt to massacre all foreigners in North China, and the bad influence he was exerting through his military power, it was no place for him to be near the Court.

The second refers to honors conferred on Li Ping-heng and his son and grandson, as will be seen by the two decrees enclosed herewith. Li Ping-heng has always been notorious for his hatred of foreigners and everything foreign.

No

He was governor of Shantung in 1897, when the murder of the two German missionaries occurred, which led to the seizure by Germany of the port of Kiao Chou. He was degraded two steps, and transferred to another post. This sentense, by the wording of the decree, could not be commuted in any way. During the siege he arrived in Peking, and was largely instrumental in bringing about the death of the six Chinese ministers who were favorable to foreigners, and who were decapitated by Imperial de cree. His anti-foreign spirit was so marked, and his sympathy with the "Boxer" movement so intense, that the Diplomatic Corps regarded the action of the Court in conferring upon him and his relations marks of imperial favor as calculated to mislead public opinion, and they thereupon entered a protest by identic note, as will be seen by enclosure No. 2.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosures: 1. Mr Conger to Peace Commissioners, Nov. 19th;
2. Mr Conger to Peace Commissioners, Nov. 27th;
3. Translation of Imperial decree, date Sept 6th;
4. Translation of Imperial decree, date Sept 19th

Enclosure No 1 with despatch No 461

No 233. Peking November 19th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

I have learned that General Tung Fu-hsiang, is still remaining with the Court.

In view of the important part which he has taken in the recent events, I consider that it is no place for him there, and he ought to be sent away at once.

I avail myself, etc, etc, etc.

(Sig) E, H, Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,
and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,
Peace Commissioners, etc, etc, etc.

Enclosure No 2 with despatch No 461

.....

No 234. Peking November 27th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

I notice among the Imperial Decrees, bearing date September 20th, one conferring rank and privileges on a son and grandson of the late Li Ping-heng, "as an indication of sincere regard for loyal and faithful service,- a regard which is boundless and ever increasing."

That His Imperial Majesty should duly reward loyal and faithful service is but meet and proper. In the present case, however, the fact of his using language such as that of the Decree in question and a former one, issued immediately after the death of Li Ping-heng, eulogizing him and conferring posthumous honors on him might mislead public opinion by inducing the Chinese people to believe that while ostensibly negociating with the Powers for a renewal of the former friendly relations, the advisers of His Majesty continue to cherish the same hostile sentiments which have made the late Li Ping-heng so notorious.

It is needless for me to dilate on Li Ping-heng's record, his well known anti-foreign spirit, the incidents which marked his progress northwards, the added vigor which he infused into the attack on the Legations, his complicity in bringing about the death of high officials favorable to Europeans, and last of all, his death, fighting to oppose the advance of troops seeking to save the lives of Ministers and subjects of nations with whom His Imperial Majesty professed to be at peace. Such being the case, it is my duty most energetically to protest against the issue and publication of Decrees of this kind, and I have to request you to be good enough to make representations in this sense, and to intimate

that

Enclosure No 3 with despatch No 481

.....

No 836. Peking November 27th, 1900.

Your Highness and Your Excellency:-

I notice among the Imperial Decrees, bearing date September 20th, one conferring rank and privilege on a son and grandson of the late Li Ping-heng, "as an indication of sincere regard for loyal and faithful service,- a regard which is boundless and ever increasing."

That His Imperial Majesty should duly reward loyal and faithful service is but meet and proper. In the present case, however, the fact of his using language such as that of the Decree in question and a former one, issued immediately after the death of Li Ping-heng, eulogizing him and conferring posthumous honors on him might mislead public opinion by inducing the Chinese people to believe that while ostensibly negociating with the Powers for a renewal of the former friendly relations, the advisers of His Majesty continue to cherish the same hostile sentiments which have made the late Li Ping-heng so notorious.

It is needless for me to dilate on Li Ping-heng's record, his well known anti-foreign spirit, the incidents which marked his progress northwards, the added vigor which he infused into the attack on the Legations, his complicity in bringing about the death of high officials favorable to European, and last of all, his death, fighting to oppose the advance of troops desiring to save the lives of Ministers and subjects of nations with whom His Imperial Majesty professed to be at peace. Such being the case, it is my duty most emphatically to protest against the issue and publication of Decrees of this kind, and I have to request you to be good enough to make representations in this sense, and to intimate that

that I request that such Decrees are not published for the future.

I avail myself, etc, etc, etc.

(Sig) E, H, Conger.

To His Highness, Prince Ching,
and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,
Peace Commissioners, etc, etc, etc.

that I request that such Decrees are not published for the future.

I avail myself, etc, etc, etc.

(Sig) M. P. Conger.

To His Highness Prince Ching,
and His Excellency, Li Hung-chang,
Peace Commissioners, etc, etc, etc.

Enclosure No 3 with despatch No 461

.....

Translation of Decree issued on the 6th of September and published in the Peking Manuscript Gazette, November 3rd, 1900

.....

Li Ping-heng, Assistant Generalissimo of the Wu Wei Army Corps, formerly Governor General of Szechuan, was personally a pure and upright man; he showed himself a public-spirited and loyal officer in the administration of public affairs. He commenced his official career as a Magistrate and advanced to to the highest rank. Wherever he held office he stopped abuses and punished the avaricious. He respected and loved to consider the feelings of the people. We had just promoted him to be Governor-General of Szechuan, when on account of certain affairs, (Shantung Missionary Case) he was degraded and transferred to another post. On account of illness, however, he took home leave.

Last year he was received in audience and fortunately he had regained his health. We then appointed him to proceed on a mission of enquiry to Moukden. Afterwards, We sent him as Inspector of the Naval affairs on the Yangtze river and he instituted reforms and put everything in proper working order. On the commencement of military operations, We called him to Peking. In spite of the heat he hurried on the journey north, and on arrival received Our commands to lead Our troops. He had just arrived at the place he was to defend, when he found the country in a state of excitement over the war. He did not achieve any good results, but this was owing to the fact that the forces under his command had not been in training for any length of time, and the officers were unable to render any good services. We did not blame Li Ping-heng for losing in battle. We now learn that his troops were defeated

in

Enclosure No 3 with despatch No 151

.....

Translation of Decree issued on the 6th of September and published in the Peking Manuscript Gazette, November 3rd, 1900

.....

Li Ping-heng, Lieutenant Generalissimo of the Wu Wei Army Corps, formerly Governor General of Szechuan, was personally a pure and upright man; he showed himself a public-spirited and loyal officer in the administration of public affairs. He commenced his official career as a Magistrate and advanced to the highest rank. Wherever he held office he stopped abuses and punished the avaricious. He respected and loved to consider the feelings of the people. We had just promoted him to be Governor-General of Szechuan, when on account of certain affairs, (Shantung Missionary Case) he was degraded and transferred to another post. On account of illness, however, he took home leave.

Last year he was received in audience and fortunately he had regained his health. We then appointed him to proceed on a mission of enquiry to Moukden. Afterwards, We sent him as Inspector of the Naval affairs on the Yangtze river and he instituted reforms and put everything in proper working order. On the commencement of military operations, We called him to Peking. In spite of the heat he hurried on the journey north, and on arrival received Our commands to lead Our troops. He had just arrived at the place he was to defend, when he found the country in a state of excitement over the war. He did not achieve any good results, but this was owing to the fact that the forces under his command had not been in training for any length of time, and the officers were unable to render any good services. We did not blame Li Ping-heng for losing in battle. We now learn that his troops were defeated

in

in battle and retired; and on the IIth of August he committed suicide at Chang Chia Wan, near Tung Chou. Although no memorial has been presented to Us regarding his death, still the report that har come to Us may be taken as reliable. Words are inadequate to express how grieved We are over the news of his death.

Let Li Ping-heng have conferred upon him such favors as are by law prescribed for Governors-General and all bad marks against his name are hereby remitted. Let the Yamen concerned look up the code and report to Us any other marks of favor that should be bestowed upon him. Further, as an extra act of Imperial favor, let a posthumous title be conferred upon him and sacrifices be made in the Chao Chung Ssu,: Ting Yung is hereby appointed to offer libations to the spirit of the dead officer. Let the local officials make all necessary arrangements when the body is conveyed to it's native place. Permission is given for the corpse to be conveyed into Peking. Let the Military Governor at Moukden ascertain whether the deceased left any relations in official life and report to Us, so that We may confer on them some marks of Our Imperial favor as an indication of Our regard for a loyal officer.

in battle and retired; and on the 11th of August he committed suicide at Chang Chia Wan, near Tung Chou.... Although no memorial has been presented to Us regarding his death, still the report that has come to Us may be taken as reliable.

Words are inadequate to express how grieved We are over the news of his death.

Let Li Ping-heng have conferred upon him such favors as are by law prescribed for Governors-General and all pacificatory marks against his name are hereby remitted. Let the Yamen concerned look up the case and report to Us any other marks of favor that should be bestowed upon him. Further, as an extra act of Imperial favor, let a posthumous title be conferred upon him and sacrifices be made in the Chao Chung Sen,[1] Ting Yung is hereby appointed to offer libations to the spirit of the dead officer. Let the local officials make all necessary arrangements when the body is conveyed to it's native place. Permission is given for the corpse to be conveyed into Peking. Let the Military Governor at Moukden ascertain whether the deceased left any relations in official life and report to Us, so that We may confer on them some marks of Our Imperial favor as an indication of Our regard for a loyal officer.

Enclosure No 4 with despatch No 461.

Translation of a Decree issued on the 19th of September, and published in the Peking Manuscript Gazette, 16th of November, 1900.

.....

Let Li Cheng-chun, eldest son of Li Ping-heng, an Honorary Licentiate, holding the rank of the 2nd degree, and an Expectant Assistant Sub-Prefect of Kiang Su, be promoted to be a Magistrate of an Independent Department in Kiang Su; also let Li Hsioh-fu, eldest grand son of Li Ping-heng, be made a Chu Jen(Provincial Graduate), and he is permitted to compete for the Metropolitan Graduate's degree.

The above promotions are conferred as an extra Act of Grace, and as an indication of sincere regard for loyal and faithful service,- a regard which is boundless and ever increasing.

Enclosure No 4 with despatch No 464.

Translation of a Decree issued on the 19th of September, and published in the Peking Manuscript Gazette, 16th of November, 1900.

.....

Words are inadequate to express how grieved We are over the news of his death.

Let Li Cheng-chun, eldest son of Li Ping-heng, an Honorary Licentiate, holding the rank of the 2nd degree, and an Expectant Assistant Sub-Prefect of Hsiang Shui be promoted to be a Registrate of an Independent Department, so made a merit of Li Hsien-tu, eldest grand son of Li Ping-heng, he made a merit of Chu Jen(Provincial Graduate), and he is permitted to compete for the Metropolitan Graduate's degree.

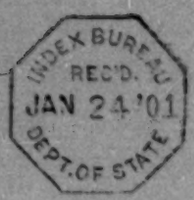
The above promotions are conferred as an extra favor and Paternal service, - a reward which is bounteous and ever increasing.

Permission is given for the corpse to be conveyed into Peking.

Let the Military Governor at Moukden ascertain whether the deceased left any relations in official life and report to Us, so that We may confer on them some mark of Our Imperial favor as an indication of Our regard for a loyal officer.

No. 462

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



December 1, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledgment of Department's Instructions received during month of November, 1900.

(Despatch No. 442, November 7, 1900)

No. 465

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 1, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 442, of the 7th ultimo, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions as follows: Nos. 279 to 286, inclusive; unnumbered dated September 12th, 17th, 22nd and 24th, 1900; October 4th, 5th, 9th, 9th and 10th, 1900, and Circular dated September 14th, 1900.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 463

DIPLOMATIC,

JAN 24 1901

BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

PEKIN, CHINA.

Secretary of State.
JAN 24 1901

To Secy. War

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 24 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

December 1st, 1900.

Action and to Navy Dept. Jan. 28

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Encloses further report on movements Filipina Junta. Purchase of arms and ammunition. List of members of junta. For transmission to Sec'y of War.

(Despatch No. 460, November 30th, 1900)

No. 463

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 1st, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 460, of the 30th. ultimo, I have the honor to enclose herewith, at the request of Lieutenant Colonel John S. Mallory, 41st. United States Volunteer Infantry, Military Attaché, for transmission to the Secretary of War, further report on the movements of the Filipina Junta: the purchase of arms and ammunition, and also a list of members.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure: Report of Colonel Mallory as above.

No. 464

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 24 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
JAN 24 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

December 1, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack with #465.
JAN 24 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Jan. 26

Subject:- List of property belonging to the United States found in Legation after the siege, June-August, 1900.

No. 464

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 1st, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Complying with paragraph No. 328, Personal Instructions, and Circular Instructions of the Department of State, dated September 27th, 1898, I have the honor to transmit herewith an inventory of the property belonging to the United States, which I found at this Legation after the siege, and to which I have certified. All other articles were either lost or destroyed during the siege.

Owing to the occupancy, during the siege, of buildings in the legation compound, by the guards, coolies and other persons who assisted in its defence, many articles of furniture were either, lost, stolen, or totally or partially destroyed; nearly all the curtains were taken to be used in making sandbags. There was also some damage caused by the bursting of shell in the Minister's house, as well as from leakage

leakage through the many shell or bullet holes in the roof of this and other buildings.

In due time I shall forward to the Department a list of articles of any value which were lost or destroyed during the siege, in order that, if deemed desirable, the United States may be indemnified for their loss. [See #465.]

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure: Inventory as above.

Enclosure with Dispatch #464.

INVENTORY OF UNITED STATES PROPERTY AT UNITED STATES LEGATION

PEKING, CHINA.

Inventory of Books in Legation Library:

---ooOoo---

✓1 Set	U. S. Foreign Relations.
1 Vol	Lord Elgin's Mission to China.
✓1 Vol	Wharton's International Law Digest.
	Several Copies of Customs Gazette,
1 Vol	Wharton's Conflict of Law,
1 Vol	Lippincot's Gazeteer,
3 Vol	Encyclopoedia,
2 Vol	Favier, Peking
✓1 Vol	Hall's International Law,
1 Vol	Bar's International Law,
8 Vol	Messages and Papers of the Presdts. of the U.S.
1 Vol	Society in China,
1 Vol	Douglas' Society in China,
✓2 Vol	Treaties and Conventions,
✓1 Vol	Consular Regulations, 81-88,
1 Vol	United States Treaties,
1 Vol	Westlate's Private International Law,
1 Vol	Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce,
1 Vol	R eduction of Gold & Silver,
1 Vol	Customs Manual,
1 Vol	Foreign Jurisdiction,
✓1 Vol	Consular Regulations, '96
✓1 Vol	Revised Statutes 1878,

Reference work Shelf

#464

INVENTORY OF UNITED STATES PROPERTY AT UNITED STATES LEGATION

PEKING, CHINA.

Inventory of Books in Legation Library:

--ooOoo--

1 Set	U. S. Foreign Relations.
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1 Vol	Wharton's International Law.
	Several Copies of Customs Gazette.
1 Vol	Wharton's Conflict of Law.
1 Vol	Lippincott's Gazeteer.
3 Vol	Encyclopoedia.
2 Vol	Davies, Peking
1 Vol	Hall's International Law.
1 Vol	Bar's International Law.
8 Vol	Messages and Papers of the Presdts. of the U.S.
1 Vol	Society in China.
1 Vol	Douglas' Society in China.
2 Vol	Treaties and Conventions.
1 Vol	Consular Regulations, 81-88.
1 Vol	United States Treaties.
1 Vol	Westlate's Private International Law.
1 Vol	Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.
1 Vol	Reduction of Gold & Silver.
1 Vol	Customs Manual.
1 Vol	Foreign Jurisdiction.
1 Vol	Consular Regulations, '96
1 Vol	Revised Statutes 1878.

2 Vol The Middle Kingdom,

1 Vol The Far Eastern Question,

1 Vol Anti-Foreign Riots in China,

1 Vol Treaties between China & Foreign Powers,

1 Vol Exterritoriality,

1 Vol French Dictionary,

1 Vol Corean Treaties,

1 Vol History of Szechuan Riots,

1 Vol Treaties between China, Siam, Japan & the U. S.

✓ 1 Vol Davis' International Law,

1 Vol Almanack de Goetha, 1902

1 Vol International Law Digest,

1 Vol Cities and Towns in China,

2 Vol Hertler's Treaties,

1 Vol The Chinese Government, Mayer's,

A lot of Pamphlets,

✓ 1 Vol Bradley's Atlas of the World,

Some unbound U. S. Statutes,

45 Vol Consular Reports,

9 Vol Chinese Recorder,

15 Vol Foreign Relations,

2 Vol Commercial Relations,

22 Vol Reports and returns of trade,

✓ 1 Vol Webster's Dictionary,

1 Vol Things Chinese,

1 Vol Trade between U. S. & China, Japan, Leuchow,

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17 Vol U. S. Digest,

4 Vol Abbott's National Digest,

2 Vol Brightly's Digest,

2 Vol Elliott's American Diplomatic Code,

2 Vol Hawaiian Reports,

1 Vol Cases on Torts,

1 Vol Outlines of an International Code,

2 Vol Political Science,

1 Vol Burns' Complete Works,

3 Vol History of American Schools for the Deaf,

1 Vol Corea, Its History, Manners & Customs,

1 Vol War Powers under the Constitution,

1 Vol Admiralty Jurisdiction and Proceedure,

1 Vol Synoptical Index of the Laws of the U. S.

✓ 1 Vol Parson on Mercantile Law,

1 Vol McCall's Clerk's Assistant,

✓ 2 Vol Parsons on Maritime Law,

4 Vol Kent's Commentaries,

1 Vol Commentaries upon International Law,

2 Vol Charters and Constitutions,

2 Vol Statutes of the U. S. of America,

2 Vol U. S. Equity Digest,

1 Vol Supplement of the Revised Statutes,

1 Vol Police and Prison Cyclopoedia,

1 Vol Popular Government,

1 Vol Three Years' Service in China,

2 Vol International Marine Conference,

1 Vol Life & Letters of S. Wells Williams,

1 Vol Mayne on Damages,

26 Vol | U. S. Statutes at Large,

17 Vol U. S. Digest, -3-

4 Vol Abbott's National Digest,

12 Vol Brightly's Digest,

12 Vol Elliott's American Diplomatic Code,

2 Vol Hawaiian Reports,

11 Vol Cases on Torts,

11 Vol Outlines of an International Code,

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1 Vol Commentaries upon International Law,

2 Vol Charters and Constitutions,

12 Vol Statutes of the U. S. of America,

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21 Vol Supplement of the Revised Statutes,

21 Vol Police and Prison Cyclopoedia,

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1 Vol Mayne on Damages,

1 Vol Claims Aginst China,

1 Vol Bigelow on Torts,

✓ 1 Vol Digest of Opinions of Attorneys General,

1 Vol Digest Pension Laws,

1 Vol Polson's Law of Nations,

1 Vol Williams on Real Estates,

1 Vol Burmaqui's National & Political Law,

✓ 1 Vol Wheaton's Law of Nations, Dana

1 Vol International Laws and Laws of War,

1 Vol Vaddel's Law of Nations,

2 Vol Wheaton's Elements of International Law,

1 Vol Letters and Journal of Lord Elgin,

3 Vol Golowin's Japan.

1 Vol United States Consuls' Manuel,

3 Vol International Marine Conference,

Lockhart's Meddcal Missionary,

Smith's Visit to China,

Ellis' Embassy to China,

3rd & 4th Vols Fillimore's International Law,

The Manchus; or, the Reigning Dynasty of China,

The Cross and the Dragon,

Ling Nam,

Stanton's Embassy,

China, Professor Douglas,

History of British India,

China and Siam,

China and the Chinese,

China,

Smith's Action at Law,

2nd Volume Notes on Indian Affairs,

1 Vol Claims Against China,

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1 Vol China and the Chinese,

China,

Smith's Action at Law,

2nd Volume Notes on Indian Affairs,

	3rd & 4th Vols InterState Commerce Com.Reports
22 Vol	United States Supreme Court Reports,Curtis
4 Vol	U. S. Supreme Court Reports, Howard,
23 Vol	Wallace's Reports,
80 Vol	United States Reports,
3 Vol	Washburn on Real Estate,
3 Vol	Greenleaf on Evidence,
✓ 2 Vol	Moore on Extradition
2 Vol	Story of the Constitution
	Equity
2 Vol	Story, Jurisprudence,
✓ 2 Vol	Bouvier's Law Dictionary
4 Vol	Wendell's Blackstone's Commentaries,
2 Vol	Bishop on Criminal Law
2 Vol	Williams on Executors,
1 Vol	Starkie on Evidence,
1 Vol	Stephen on Pleading,
2 Vol	Langdell's Cases on Contracts,
1 Vol	Wharton's Commentaries on American Law,
1 Vol	Woolsey's International Law
1 Vol	Chinese Dictionary,
53	North China Herald,
✓ 1 Vol	Webster Law of Naturalization,
2 Vol	Foster's Federal Procedure,
✓ 10 Vol	Century Dictionary,
1 Vol	The Scribner-Black Atlas of the World,
2 Vol	Consular Regulations 1896,
✓ 2 Vol	Instructions to the Diplomatic Officers of the US.
✓ 1 Vol	The American Passport,

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2 Vol Instructions to the Diplomatic Officers of the US.

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10 Vol Century Dictionary.

2 Vol Foster's Federal Procedure.

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53 North China Herald.

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22 Vol United States Supreme Court Reports, Curtis

3rd & 4th Vols InterState Commerce Com. Reports

Archives:

Vols 1 - 13 Inclusive,

Vols 15-30 inclusive,

Vols 30 and 31, (Duplicate numbers)

Vols 47-164 Inclusive,

Vols 152-153-154 duplicate numbers,

15 Vol Notes Chinese Correspondence,

101 Vol Consular and Miscellaneous correspondence,

2 Vol Index from (From 1898-18-)

1 Vol Register (from 1898-18-)

1 Vol Passport Book (from 1898-18-)

1 Vol Despatches New Series,

1 Vol Consular New Series,

1 Vol Notes, New Series,

1 Vol Miscellaneous, New Series,

1 Vol Account Book.

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Vols 1 - 13 Inclusive,

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1 Vol	Passport Book (from 1898-18-)	
1 Vol	Despatches	New Series,
1 Vol	Consular	New Series,
1 Vol	Notes,	New Series,
1 Vol	Miscellaneous,	New Series,
1 Vol	Account Book.	

FURNITURE:

I. In Minister's Office:

2 Tables, 1 Sofa, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Bookcase, 2 Chairs, 1 Set Drawers, 2 Maps, 1 Desk, 1 Set Shovel and Tongs, 1 Paper Baske t, 1 Coal hod, 2 Official Chinese Chairs, 1 Desk Chair.

II. In First Secretary's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Table, I Safe, 1 Copying press and stand, 2 Chairs, 1 Stove, 4 Curtains, 1 Paper Basket, 4 Pictures, 1 Large Cupboard, 1 Mimeograph, 1 Remington Typewriter, 1 Table with drawers; 1 Roller-top Desk, 1 Bookcase with top, 1 Desk Chair.

III. In Second Secretary's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Table, 1 Stove, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 2 Chairs, 1 Desk Chair, 2 Bookcases, 1 Small Table, 1 Remington Typewriter.

IV. In Interprete r's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Table, 1 Bookcase, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Chest of Drawers, 8 Curtains, 3 Chairs, 1 Rug, 1 Coal hod, 1 Set Postal Scales, 1 Desk Chair, 1 Bookcase with top, 1 Remington Typewriter.

FURNITURE:

I. In Minister's Office:

2 Tables, 1 Sofa, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Bookcase, 2 Chairs, 1 Set Drawers, 2 Maps, 1 Desk, 1 Set Shovel and Tongs, 1 Paper Basket, 1 Coal Hod, 2 Official Chinese Chairs, 1 Desk Chair.

II. In First Secretary's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Table, 1 Safe, 1 Copying press and stand, 2 Chairs, 1 Stove, 4 Curtains, 1 Paper Basket, 4 Pictures, 1 Large Cupboard, 1 Mimeograph, 1 Remington Typewriter, 1 Table with drawers; 1 Roller-top Desk, 1 Bookcase with top, 1 Desk Chair.

III. In Second Secretary's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Table, 1 Stove, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 2 Chairs, 1 Desk Chair, 2 Bookcases, 1 Small Table, 1 Remington Typewriter.

IV. In Interprete r's Office:

1 Desk, 1 Table, 1 Bookcase, 1 Revolving Bookcase, 1 Chest of Drawers, 8 Curtains, 3 Chairs, 1 Rug, 1 Coal hod, 1 Set Postal Scales, 1 Desk Chair, 1 Bookcase with top, 1 Remington Typewriter.

V. In Chinese Writer's Office:

1 Table, 1 Set drawers, 2 Chairs, 1 Stove.

VI. In Minister's House:

Class "A." Articles in Good Condition.

1 Camphor wood wardrobe, 2 Camphor wood chests of drawers, 1 Camphor wood set drawers, 1 toilet mirror (oval), 1 Hatrack, 1 side table , 1 Elk horns, 2 Chinese Chairs, 1 Yellow satin screen, 1 mounted mirror, 1 music stand, 1 side board, 1 buffet table, 1 extension table, 1 cupboard, 1 square Japanese table, 1 library table, 1 leather covered chair, 1 bookcase, 4 tea poys, 1 [illegible] 1 vase, gift of Emperor, 1 writing desk, 2 beds with sptings and mattresses, 1 drawing room carpet, 1 hall carpet, 2 hassocks, 3 picture frames, 11 small rugs, 1 large rug.

Class "B." Articles Badly Worn.

1 small work table, 1 cheval glass, 2 Chinese cabinets, 2 round tables, 1 bamboo taa table, 2 cane sofas, 10 cane chairs, 1 Chinese wardrobe, 1 oval shaped divan, 1 toilet mirror, 1 washstand, 1 towel rack, 1 upholstered sofal washstand, 3 tables, 4 chairs upholstered in yellow satin, 4 high backed reception chairs, 2 yellow hask satin round ottomans, 3 chairs upholstered in blue with crimson plush 18 leather-cove red chairs.

V. In Chinese Writer's Office:

1 Table, 1 Set drawers, 2 Chairs, 1 Stove.

VI. In Minister's House:

Class "A." Articles in Good Condition.

1 Cam hor wood wardrobe, 2 Camphor wood chests of drawers, 1 Camphor wood set drawers, 1 toilet mirror (oval), 1 Hatrack, 1 side table , 1 RIK horns, 2 Chinese chairs, 1 Yellow satin screen, 1 mounted mirror, 1 music stand, 1 side board, 1 buffet table, 1 extension table, 1 cupboard, 1 square Japanese table, 1 library table, 1 leather covered chair, 1 bookcase, 4 tea pots, 1 vase, gilt of Emperor, 1 writing desk, 2 beds with springs and mattresses, 1 drawing room carpet, 1 hall carpet, 2 hassocks, 3 picture frames, 11 small rugs, 1 large rug.

Class "B." Articles Badly Worn.

1 small work table, 1 cheval glass, 2 Chinese cabinets, 2 round tables, 1 bamboo tea table, 2 cane sofas, 10 cane chairs, 1 Chinese wardrobe, 1 oval shaped divan, 1 toilet mirror, 1 washstand, 1 towel rack, 1 upholstered sofal washstand, 3 tables, 4 chairs upholstered in yellow satin, 4 high backed reception chairs, 2 yellow mask satin round ottomans, 3 chairs upholstered in blue with crimson plush, 8 leather-cove red chairs.

1 Remington Typewriter.

VII. In First Secretary's House:

1 mirror, 2 easy chairs, 7 parlor chairs, 1 divan, 2 arm-chairs, 1 black table, 1 black table, 1 hat-rack, 1 hanging lamp/ 1 mirror, i dressing table, 1 bedstead, 2 small tables, 1 washstand, 1 se mi-circular table, 1 wardrobe, 1 commode, 1 bureau, 1 wardrobe, 1 round table, 1 cupboard, 1 mirror, 1 folding table, 2 cupboards, 1 dining table, 1 large ice-box, 8 old lamps, 12 dining room chairs, 4 leather-covered library chairs, 1 oak bureau, with mirror, 1 oak bookcase, 3 wardrobes, 1 iron bed with matress (wire) , i divan, 4 bookcases, 4 washstands, 4 small tables, , 4 bureaus, 1 sideboard, 6 bedroom chairs, 4 spring mattresses.

VIII. In Interpreter's House:

1 small sofa, 4 chairs, 1 writing desk, i card table, 1 dining table, 10 chairs, 1 sideboard, 2 easy chairs, covered with cretonne.

Peking, China, December 3, 1900.

I hereby certify that the foregoing list includes all articles belonging to the United States found in this Legation after the siege, June-August, 1900.

E. H. Conger

VII. In First Secretary's House:

1 mirror, 2 easy chairs, 7 parlor chairs, 1 divan, 2 arm-chairs, 1 black table, 1 black table, 1 hat-rack, 1 hanging lamp\ 1 mirror, 1 dressing table, 1 bedstead, 2 small tables, 1 washstand, 1 re ni-circular table, 1 wardrobe, 1 commode, 1 bureau, 1 wardrobe, 1 round table, 1 cupboard, 1 mirror, 1 folding table, 2 cupboards, 1 dining table, 1 large ice-box, 8 old lamps, 12 dining room chairs, 4 leather-covered library chairs, 1 oak bureau, with mirror, 1 oak bookcase, 3 wardrobes, 1 iron bed with mattress (wire) , 1 divan, 4 bookcases, 4 washstands, 4 small tables, , 4 bureaus, 1 sideboard, 6 bedroom chairs, 4 spring mattresses.

VIII. In Interpreter's House:

1 small sofa, 4 chairs, 1 writing desk, 1 card table, 1 dining table, 10 chairs, 1 sideboard, 2 easy chairs, covered with cretonne.

Class "B." Articles Badly Worn.

Peking, China, December 3, 1900.

I hereby certify that the foregoing list includes all articles belonging to the United States found in this Legation after the siege, June-August, 1900.

No. 465

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 11 1902

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 24 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 3, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Ack with #464.
JAN 24 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: List of United States property in the Legation at Peking lost or destroyed during the siege June-August, 1900, and valuation.

(No. 462, December 1, 1900.)

No. 466 465?

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 3rd, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 462 464, of the 1st inst, I have the honor to enclose herewith a list of articles of value lost or destroyed during the siege, and which it may be desirable to include in the indemnity to be paid by the Chinese Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure: List of Lost or destroyed articles as above.

Enclosure No. 4 In Despatch No. 466

IN MINISTER'S OFFICE

1 Clock,	$25.00
1 Washstand,	10.00
1 Declaration of Independence,	25.00
4 Pairs window curtains,	10.00

IN FIRST SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

1 Hanging lamp,	$ 5.00

IN SECOND SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

6 Pairs curtains,	$12.00
1 Hanging lamp,	5.00

IN MINISTER'S HOUSE.

3 Cane seated chairs,	$ 7.50
1 Small work table,	2.00
2 Chinese cabinets,	10.00
2 Round tables,	5.00
2 Small Chinese tables,	5.00
1 Box of toys,	10.00
9 Pairs lace curtains,	18.00
10 Pairs sash curtains,	10.00
4 Lamps,	20.00
1 Toilet set,	10.00
3 Pairs red cretonne draperies,	6.00
129 Yards Japanese matting,	50.00
2 Door mats,	3.00
6 Pairs red silk draperies,	240.00
5 Jardinieres,	30.00
2 Lanterns,	5.00
2 Wooden couches,	5.00
Matting on drawing room floor,	20.00
3 Chinese carpets,	150.00
1 Towel rack,	1.00
1 Long black table,	5.00
1 Small set drawers and shelves,	5.00
1 Iron bedstead and spring mattresses,	25.00
1 Toilet mirror,	5.00
1 Window curtain Madras cloth,	2.00
1 Old wardrobe,	1.00
1 Small Chinese table,	1.00
1 Upholstered sofa,	5.00
1 Folding card table,	5.00
1 Japanese screen,	3.00
1 Cupboard,	2.00
1 Set shelves,	2.00
1 Ice chest,	5.00
1 Pair yellow satin portieres,	50.00
2 Pairs yellow satin window curtains,	100.00
2 Yellow satin sofas,	10.00
1 Piano lamp,	5.00
1 Easel,	2.00
1 Side table,	3.00
1 Small set drawers,	5.00
1 Large Japanese screen,	5.00
4 Leather-covered arm chairs,	60.00
4 Small bent wood cane chairs,	5.00
1 Mantel mirror,	2.00
2 Upholstered sofas,	5.00
3 Upholstered chairs,	3.00
1 Set Chinese shelves,	1.00
1 High-backed black satin chair,	3.00
1 Candle brackets,	1.00
2 Chinese carpets,	100.00

Brought forward,	$1,125.50

IN FIRST SECRETARY'S HOUSE.

1 Pair curtains,	10.00
1 Hanging lamp,	5.00
1 Cupboard, glass doors,	10.00
1 Shower,	5.00
Total,	$1,155.50

Peking, China, December 3rd, 1900.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct list of all the property of value belonging to the United States, either lost or destroyed at the Legation in Peking during the s iege June-August, 1900, and that the values set opposite are fair and just.

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D
5 DEC 1900
DEPT. OF STATE

From Peking,

December 4, 1900.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Fourth.

Referring to Conger's telegram today, it seems to me is very important no further changes should be suggested, as the limit of mutual concession seems to have been reached by diplomatic representatives here. Prompt and final decision from you very desirable.

ROCKHILL

INDEX BUREAU
AUG 3 1903
FILED

ciphered by J.R.B., Chief Clerk's Office

December 5, 9.55 A.M., *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Peking

December 4, 1900.

Received December 5,

Secretary of State.
FEB 21 1901

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Fourth.

Below is the full text of the note as amended and finally agreed upon today, for the sake of immediate and unanimous action. All my colleagues are willing to agree to the present wording if you insist, although the majority of them prefer to retain the word irrevocable. Reply quickly, and if possible instruct me to sign, as any further changes or delays will jeopardize negotiations. My colleagues are all waiting for me. Shall I sign joint or identic note? Quote note:

During the months of May, June, July and August of the present year, serious disturbances broke out in the northern provinces of China, and crimes unprecedented in human history, crimes against the law of nations, against the laws of humanity, and against civilization, were committed under peculiarly odious circumstances.

*ciphered by*_____

_____, *190* , *M.*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From

Conger 2

The principal of these crimes were the following:
First. On the twentieth June _____ Baron von Ketteler, Minister of Germany, proceeding to the Tsungli Yamen, was murdered, while in the exercise of his official duties, by soldiers of the regular army, acting under orders of their chiefs.
Second. The same day the foreign Legations were attacked and besieged. These attacks continued without intermission until the fourteenth August, on which date the arrival of foreign troops put an end to them. These attacks were made by regular troops who joined the Boxers, and who obeyed orders of the Court, emanating from the Imperial Palace. At the same time the Chinese Government officially declared, by its representatives abroad, that it guaranteed the security of the Legations.

Third. The eleventh June Mr. Sujyama, Chancellor of the Legation of Japan, in the discharge of an official mission, was killed by regulars at the gates of the City. At Peking and in several provinces foreigners were murdered, tortured or attacked by Boxers and regular troops, and only

*eciphered by*_____

_____, *190* , *M.*

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From

Conger 3

owed their salvation to their determined resistance. Their estates were _____ and destroyed.

Fourth, Foreign cemeteries, at Peking especially, were desecrated, the graves opened, the remains scattered abroad.

These events led the foreign Powers to send their troops to China, in order to protect the lives of their representatives and their nationals, and to restore order. During their march to Peking, the allied forces met with the resistance of the Chinese army, and had to overcome it by force.

China, having recognized her responsibility, expressed her regrets, and manifested the desire to see an end put to the situation created by the disturbances referred to. The Powers have decided to accede to her request, on the conditions enumerated below, which they deem absolutely indespensable to expiate the crimes committed, and to prevent their recurrence.

First.

A. Despatch to Berlin of an extraordinary mission, headed by an Imperial prince, to express the regrets of His Majesty the Emperor of China and of the Chinese Government for

*Deciphered by*_____

_____, *190* , *M.*

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Conger 4 *From*

the murder of His Excellency the late Baron von Kettler, German Minister.

B. Erection on the place where the murder was committed of a commemorative monument, suitable to the rank of the deceased, bearing an inscription in the Latin, German and Chinese languages, expressing the regrets of the Emperor of China for the murder.

Second.

A. The severest punishment for the persons designated in the Imperial Decree of September 25th, 1900, and those whom the representatives of the Powers shall subsequently designate.

B. Suspension of all official examinations for five years in all the towns where foreigners have been massacred or have been subjected to cruel treatment.

Third. Honorable reparation shall be made by the Chinese Government to the Japanese Government for the murder of Mr. Sujyami.

Fourth. An expiatory monument shall be erected by the Imperial

Deciphered by

, *190* , *M.*

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From

Conger 5

Chinese Government in which foreign or international cemeteries which have been desecrated and in which the graves have been destroyed.

Fifth. Maintenance, under conditions to be settled between the Powers, of the prohibition of the importation of arms, as well as of material used exclusively for the manufacturing of arms and ammunition.

Sixth. Equitable indemnities for the Governments, societies, companies and individuals, as well as for Chinese, who have suffered during the late events, in person or in property, in consequence of their being in the service of foreigners. China shall adopt financial measures acceptable to the Powers for the purpose of guaranteeing the payment of said indemnities, and the interest and amortization of the loans.

Seventh. Right for each Power to maintain permanent goards for its Legation, and to put the Legation quarter in a defensible condition. Chinese shall not have the right to reside in this quarter.

Eighth. The dbstruction of the forts which might obstruct

Deciphered by

, *190* , *M.*

Gov No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

Conger 6 *From*

free communication between Peking and the sea shall be destroyed.

Ninth. Right to military occupation of certain points, tombe determined by an understanding between the Powers, for keeping open communication between the Capital and the sea.

Tenth. The Chinese Government shall cause to be published during tow years, in all sub-prefectures, an Imperial Decree embodying a perpetual prohibition, under pain of death, of membership in any anti-foreign society.

B. Enumeration of the punishments which are to be inflicted on the guilty, together with the suspension of all official examinations in the localities where foreigners have been murdered or have been subjected to cruel treatment.

C. An Imperial Decree shall be issued and published everywhere in the Empire, declaring that the Governors-General, Governors, and all provincial or local officials shall be responsibly for order in their respective jurisdictions, and that whenever fresh anti-foreign disturbances or any other treaty infractions occur which shall not have

Deciphered by

, *190* , *M.*

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Conger 7

been forthwith suppressed and the guilty persons punished, they, the said officials, shall be immediately removed and forever prohibited from holding any office or honors.

Eleventh. The Chinese Government will undertake to negotiate the amendments of the treaties of commerce and navigation, considered what modification would be required by the foreign Powers, and upon other subjects connected with commercial relations, with the object [of] facilitating them.

Twelfth. The Chinese Government shall determine by what method to reform the office of Foreign Affairs and to modify the court ceremonials concerning the reception of foreign representatives, in the manner which the Powers shall indicate.

CONGER

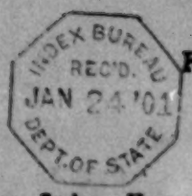
Deciphered by the Chief Clerk

December 5, 1.23 PM 90 , M.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES
TO CHINA.

No.28.



Peking, China, December 5th, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm the following cablegram sent to you in cipher on the 4th instant.

"Secstate, Washington.

Fourth. Referring Conger's telegram of to-day it seems to me very important that no further changes be suggested as limit of mutual concessions seems to have been reached by Diplomatic Representatives here. Prompt and final decision from you very desirable. Rockhill "

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No. 466.

DIPLOMATIC,
FEB 19 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Secretary of State.
FEB 19 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

December 5, 1900.

Ack Feb
Feb. 23 C

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State:-

Subject: Confirming Department's cipher telegram of November 27th, and Legation's of 4th instant. Full text of note unanimously agreed upon. Changes made. Action as to use of words "Death penalty" and "Irrevocable."

No. 466

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 5, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, as enclosures herein, your cipher telegram of the 27th ultimo, and mine of the 4th instant.

1. 2.

The latter is the full text of the note including the demands which the Ministers have unanimously agreed upon to be sent to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. You will observe that several changes have been made in the demands as originally sent to you; the most important of them in compliance with your telegram, and agreed to by a majority of my colleagues only because I strenuously insisted upon them, and in order not to greatly endanger negotiations by further unnecessary delay. All the Ministers, except the Russian and British, had been instructed to sign the note as it was.

The

The British Minister had not yet received definite instructions, and the Russian Minister had been instructed to sign only on condition that the death penalty was left out. I therefore had the active assistance of these two and the Japanese Minister, and have been working with the others ever since the receipt of your telegram.

A meeting was called, at my suggestion, on yesterday. Upon the question of substituting the words "severest punishment" for "death penalty," the German, Austrian and Italian Ministers voted "No," but agreed that when it came to signing the note, they would sign the changed note. The death penalty having been stricken out, it was thought by a majority of the Ministers that there could not be serious objection to the use of the word "irrevocable" in the preamble; but I insisted that it should go out, and, instead of referring to the conditions as "irrevocable," we would say "absolutely indispensable;" and finally, all agreed that if my Government would not give way on this point, they all would, for the sake of harmonious and immediate action, agree to the change. But the German, French, Austrian, Italian, Spanish and Belgian Ministers very much preferred to retain the word "irrevocable,"

"irrevocable," and begged me to ask my Government to yield. I promised to telegraph you the facts, and await instruction.

Their principal reasons for insisting upon the word "irrevocable," were that any changes would weaken our case, and encourage the Chinese, and that by retaining the word there would be far less danger of quibbles and delays on the part of the Chinese, and that, with the words "death penalty" stricken out, there was no danger in leaving the word "irrevocable" in. Besides, they all insisted that it was not used in the sense of an ultimatum. (It is probable that the employment of the word "irrevocable" might be of service in preventing some of the Ministers themselves, during negotiations, from proposing changes in the demands.) However, whether or not you insist upon its being stricken out, the note will be signed as soon as I hear from you. I am presuming that the British Minister will, by that time, have received his instructions. Everything is so chaotic here, and unexpected conditions so likely to arise at any moment, that further delay is very dangerous. So many concessions have been made, and so many changes agreed to by the several Ministers, that now, having reached a possible agreement,

advantage

advantage should be taken of it, and the matter closed.

The British Minister is expecting today his instructions to sign. When he does receive them, they will be only waiting for me. I hope, therefore, very soon to receive your telegraphic approval of, and authority to sign, the note.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E H Conger

Enclosures:

1. Department's cipher telegram of November 27th, 1900;
2. Legation's cipher telegram of December 4th, 1900.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 466

.....

Telegram Received. (Cipher)

Conger, Peking.

Twenty-seventh. Your telegrams received also fuller reports of conference from Japanese Legation. The President disapproves word irrevocable; it is apparently equivalent to the ultimatum to which we understand almost all the Powers are opposed. The President gravely doubts whether it will be possible to execute the death sentences in all cases. He also questions the advisability of the clause prohibiting the importation of materials which enter into manufacture of munitions of war. You will make these views known to your colleagues and after pressing them will advise us of the result. Period. Before signing send us identical note for the President's consideration. Most Confidential. Choate and Pauncefote inform me that England agrees with our view and that Germany will not stand out.

Enclosure No. 1 in Despatch No. 464

.....

Telegram Received. (Cipher)

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Enclosure #2 with despatch #466.

Copy of telegram sent in cipher.

Peking, China, December 4th, 1900.

SECSTATE,

Washington.

Fourth. Below is the full text of the note as amended and finally agreed upon to-day. For the sake of immediate and unanimous action all my colleagues are willing to agree to the present wording if you insist although a majority of them prefer to retain the word irrevocable. Period. Reply quickly and if possible instruct me to sign as any further changes or delays will jeopardize negotiations. My colleagues are all waiting for me. Shall I sign joint or identic note.

"During the months of May, June, July and August of the present year serious disturbances broke out in the northern provinces of China and crimes unprecedented in human history, crimes against the law of Nations, against the laws of humanity and against civilization were committed under peculiarly odious circumstances. The principal of these crimes were the following:-

First. On the 20th June His Excellency Baron von Ketteler, Minister of Germany, proceeding to the Tsung-li Yamen was murdered while in the exercise of his official duties by soldiers of the regular army acting under orders of their chiefs.

Second. The same day the Foreign Legations were attacked and besieged; these attacks continued without intermission until the 14th August on which date the arrival of foreign troops put an end to them. These attacks were made by regular troops who joined the Boxers and who obeyed orders

Enclosure #1 with despatch #165.

Copy of telegram sent in cipher.

Peking, China, December 4th, 1900.

SECSTATE,

Washington.

Fourth. Below is the full text of the note as amended and finally agreed upon to-day. For the sake of immediate and unanimous action all my colleagues are willing to agree to the present wording if you insist although a majority of them prefer to retain the word irrevocable.Period. Reply quickly and if possible instruct me to sign as any further change or delays will jeopardize negotiations. My colleagues are all waiting for me. Shall I sign joint or identic note.

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of the Court emanating from the Imperial Palace. At the same time the Chinese Government officially declared by its representatives abroad that it guaranteed the security of the Legations.

Third. The 11th of June Mr.Sujyama,Chancellor of the Legation of Japan,in the discharge of an official mission was killed by regulars at the gates of the city. At Peking and in several provinces foreigners were murdered,tortured or attacked by Boxers and regular troops and only owed their salvation to their determined resistance. Their establishments were pillaged and destroyed.

Fourth. Foreign cemeteries,at Peking especially, were desecrated,the graves opened,the remains scattered abroad. These events led the Foreign Powers to send their troops to China in order to protect the lives of their representatives and their nationals and to restore order. During their march to Peking the allied forces met with the resistance of the Chinese armies and had to overcome it by force. China having recognized her responsibility expressed her regrets and manifested the desire to see an end put to the situation created by the disturbances referred to the Powers have decided to accede to her request on the conditions enumerated below which they deem absolutely indispensable to expiate the crimes committed and to prevent their recurrence.

1st. (a) Despatch to Berlin of an extraordinary mission headed by an Imperial Prince to express the regrets of His Majesty the Emperor of China and of the Chinese Government for the murder of His Excellency the late Baron von Ketteler,German Minister.

(b) Erection on the place where the murder was committed of a commemorative monument suitable to the rank of the deceased bearing an inscription in the latin, german and chinese languages expressing the regrets of the

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(b) Erection on the place where the murder was committed of a commemorative monument suitable to the rank of the deceased bearing an inscription in the latin, German and chinese languages expressing the regrets of the

Emperor of China for the murder.

2nd. (a) The severest punishment for the persons designated in the Imperial Decree of September 25th,1900 and those whom the representatives of the Powers shall subsequently designate.

(b) Suspension of all official examinations for five years in all the towns where foreigners have been massacred or have been subjected to cruel treatment.

3rd. Honorable reparation shall be made by the Chinese Government to the Japanese Government for the murder of Mr.Sujyama.

4th. An expiatory monument shall be erected by the Imperial Chinese Government in each of the foreign or international cemeteries which have been desecrated and in which the graves have been destroyed.

5th. Maintenance under conditions to be settled between the Powers of the prohibition of the importation of arms as well as of material used exclusively for the manufacturing of arms and ammunition.

6th. Equitable indemnities for the Governments, societies,companies and individuals as well as for Chinese who have sufferred during the late events in person or in property in consequence of their being in the service of foreigners. China shall adopt financial measures acceptable to the Powers for the purpose of guaranteeing the payment of said indemnities and the interest and amortization of the loans.

7th. Right for each Power to maintain a permanent guard for its Legation and to put the Legation quarter in a defensible condition. Chinese shall not have the right to reside in this quarter.

8th. The Taku and other forts which might impede free communication between Peking and the sea shall be destroyed.

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7th. Right for each Power to maintain a permanent guard for its Legation and to put the Legation quarter in a defensible condition. Chinese shall not have the right to reside in this quarter.

8th. The Taku and other forts which might impede free communication between Pekin and the sea shall be destroyed.

9th. Right of military occupation of certain points to be determined by an understanding between the Powers for keeping open communication between the capital and the sea.

10th. The Chinese Government shall cause to be published during two years in all sub-prefectures an imperial decree embodying:-

(a) perpetual prohibition under pain of death of membership in any anti-foreign society;

(b) enumeration of the punishments which shall have been inflicted on the guilty together with the suspension of all official examinations in the towns where foreigners have been murdered or have been subjected to cruel treatment.

(c) An imperial decree shall be issued and published in the Empire declaring that all Governors-General, Governors and provincial or local officials shall be responsible for order in their respective jurisdictions and that whenever fresh anti-foreign disturbances or any other treaty infractions occur which shall not have been forthwith suppressed and the guilty persons punished they the said officials shall be immediately removed and forever prohibited from holding any office or honors

11th. The Chinese Government will undertake to negotiate the amendments to the treaties of commerce and navigation considered useful by the Foreign Powers and upon other subjects connected with commercial relations with the object of facilitating them.

12th. The Chinese Government shall undertake to reform the office of Foreign Affairs and to modify the Court ceremonial concerning the reception of Foreign Representatives in the manner which the Powers shall indicate."

CONGER.

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12th. The Chinese Government shall undertake to reform the Office of Foreign Affairs and to modify the Court ceremonial concerning the reception of Foreign Representatives in the manner which the Powers shall indicate."

CONCUR.

No. 467

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC
JAN 22 '01
BUREAU.

Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 21 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

December 6, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
JAN 22 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Ackn
Jan 26 C

Subject: Unjustifiable spoliation of astronomical instruments at Peking Observatory by Germans and French. Protest of English and American Generals.

No. 467

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 6, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I regret to inform you that among the many other acts of unjustifiable spoliation by the Allied Armies here, the Germans and French are now taking down and packing for shipment to Berlin and Paris, the wonderfully beautiful and world-renowned astronomical instruments, which for centuries have ornamented the famous observatory on top of the Eastern wall of this city. These instruments are manufactured of bronze, of a most rare and valuable quality. It is true they are not now serving any scientific purpose, but the most of them having been made by the Chinese (under the direction of the Jesuits), and having withstood the outdoor exposure of more than 200 years of this rigorous climate

without

without the faintest corrosion or slightest damage, and as they are such a marvel of skillful workmanship and incomparable metallurgy, and have been so carefully watched and preserved by the Chinese, - they should be allowed to remain, as they are, one of Peking's most interesting and valued curiosities.

I understand that Generals Chaffee and Gaselee have filed protests with Field Marshal Count von Waldersee, against the removal of the instruments, but without effect. Since it is a movement by the military, I have not thought best to interfere, but I think the incident should at least be made a matter of Legation record by this correspondence.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obdeient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 468

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 31 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Secretary of State.
JAN 31 1901

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RECD.
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Acknd and
to War Dept
Feb. 7
C.

December 7, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Confirming Department's cipher telegram of 4th instant, and Legation reply of 7th instant. After conference with General Chaffee, Minister concludes it would be imprudent to demand Temple of Agriculture at this time. Too far from Legation quarter to be made use of for guard, unless the guard is to be a very large one. Desirability of Province of Chihli. Concessions or settlements at other places.

No. 468

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 7, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overleaf, your cipher telegram of the 4th instant, and my reply of today.

I presume you intended to refer to the Temple of Agriculture instead of the Temple of Heaven.

General Chaffee has today sent me a copy of his telegram to General Corbin on the subject, and, after discussing the matter with him, I informed him that I should wire you as I have done. He tells me that he had understood the proposed legation guards were to consist of from 500 to 1,000 men for each legation. In that case, I agree with him that it would neither be necessary nor desirable to quarter them near the legation, and that the Temple of Agriculture would be an ideal camp for a guard of that size; but, I do not believe

believe a permanent guard of more than 100 men to a legation is contemplated, and these must be quartered in, or in close proximity to, the legation. The Temple of Agriculture is located in the South-west part of the Chinese City; the legations are, and must continue to be, located in the Tartar or Imperial City. The tract mentioned could not, therefore, in my judgment, be used to quarter the legation guard.

It is possible that we may find it convenient, as negotiations progress, to demand legation and consular sites, and possibly concessions at various places for settlements and other purposes, in regard to some of which you have already confidentially instructed me. Hence it seems to me prudent to withhold all unnecessary demands now, so that important necessary demands may, when the time comes, be made with their full potency.

As to General Chaffee's suggestions about the Province of Chihli; if acquirement of territory or exercise of special spheres of influence were, under any circumstances, to be the policy of the United States, then this province would be for us the most desirable; but I do not believe that any benefits of trade, or otherwise, could come to the United

States

States from the possession of any province of China, that would compensate for the immeasureable trouble, expense and responsibility which must be assumed with it. The Chinese can be governed easily in Chinese ways, but, I apprehend, would be most difficult to control by Western men or methods. It will be better to continue our declared policy, and try to keep the doors open for our influence and trade in some other way.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. (CIPHER)

CONGER,

PEKING.

FOURTH. PLEASE CONFER WITH CHAFFEE AND WIRE YOUR VIEWS AS TO TEMPLE OF HEAVEN GROUNDS.

(SIGNED) HAY.

.....

TELEGRAM SENT. (CIPHER)

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

SEVENTH. IN VIEW OF THE DECLARED POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES IT SEEMS TO ME UNWISE AT THE PRESENT MOMENT TO DEMAND ANY CONCESSIONS OF TERRITORY EXCEPT FOR LEGATION OR CONSULAR PURPOSES. LATER CONCESSIONS AT TRRATY OR OTHER PORTS FOR SETTLEMENTS AND OTHER PURPOSES MAY BECOME NECESSARY AND UNNECESSARY DEMANDS NOW MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THEM. REMOTE LOCATION OF THE TEMPLE OF AGRICULTURE PRECLUDES USING FOR LEGATION AND ANY PERMANENT GUARD MUST BE QUARTERED NEAR THE LEGATION.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

FORM No. 282.

DIPLOMATIC,

DEC 14 1900

BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,

DEC 11 1900

From Peking,

December 7, 1900.

Received 10.30 P. M.,

December 8.

Pertains to instructions to War Dept. regarding Dec. 10

Confirm. Cortelyou Dec. 15.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Seventh.

In view of the declared policy of the United States, it seems to me unwise, at the present moment, to demand any concessions of territory, except for Legation or Consular purposes. Later concessions at treaty or other ports for settlements and other purposes may become necessary, and unnecessary demands now might jeopardize them. Remote location of the temple of agriculture precludes using for Legation, and any permanent guard must be quartered near the Legation.

CONGER

copies made for Mr. Adee

Deciphered by Wm. H. Michael,

December 9, 11 A.M., 190 , M.

Copy delivered to Sec Dec 9 A.C.

Deciphered by

, 190 , M.

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 10 1900
BUREAU.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DEC 10 1900

Please telegraph your
answer to this
communication. A copy has been
sent to Mr. .....
Washington.

Peking,

December 8, 1900.

Received 10.30 P. M.,

December 8.

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Seventh.

In view of the declared policy of the United States, it seems to me unwise, at the present moment, to demand any concessions of territory, except for legation or other purposes. Later concessions at treaty or other ports for settlements and other purposes may become necessary, and unnecessary demands now might jeopardize them. Remote location of the temple of agriculture precludes using for legation, and any permanent guard must be quartered near the legation.

C O N G E R

Wm. H. Michael,

December 9, 11 A.M.

Form No. 282.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

From Pekin, Rec'd Dec.8,1900.

Secretary of State.
DEC 29 1900

10:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington,D.C.

Seventh. In view of the declared policy of the United States it seems to me ~~that~~ unwise,at the ~~present~~ present time, to demand any concessions of territory except for legation or consular purposes. Later concessions at treaty or other ports for settlements ~~and~~ other purposes may become necessary,and any unnecessary demands now might jeopardize them.Remote location of the temple of agriculture precludes using for legation,and any permanent guard must be quartered near the legation.

CONGER.

Deciphered and typewritten by

the Chief Clerk,Sunday,Dec.9,1900.
II a.m.

Deciphered by_____

_____, 190 , ____ M.

DIPLOMATIC
DEC 10 1900
BUREAU

TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
DEC 10 1900

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER

No.24.

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 31 1901
Secretary of State.
JAN 31 1901
INDEX BUREAU.

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RECD.
JAN 21 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, December 10th, 1900.

Ans. Feb. 2

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions No.11 of October 22d, last, transmitting certain correspondence concerning Chinese affairs between the Department of State and the French Embassy at Washington.

In the Memorandum sent by you on October 19 to the French Charge d'Affaires you state your belief in the beneficial influence on the determininations of the Chinese Government of a collective manifestation of the Powers in their initial declaration of their determination to preserve the territorial integrity and the administrative entirety of China, and to secure, for the Chinese nation and for themselves, the benefits of open and equal commercial intercourse between the Chinese Empire and the world at large."

Before the acceptance by the Powers of the French note of October 4th as the basis of their demands on China, I had sought, in conjunction with Mr. Conger, to have embodied in the preamble of the note to be presented by the Diplomatic Representatives to the Chinese Government a declaration of intentions similar in terms to that which you suggest in your Memorandum to Mr. Thiebaut. Mr. Conger found most of his col-

leagues strongly opposed to such a declaration, which they held had been so often made by their respective Governments that there was no necessity of repeating it again. Mr. Conger is of opinion that the same opposition will be met with from his colleagues to such a declaration unless otherwise instructed by their governments.

I believe that a formal declaration by the Powers in the sense you mention would be of vast and lasting value. Though it is true that most of them have given expression within the last year in one form or the other to views similar to those which you entertain, they have never been given the prominence which they deserve and which they would at once acquire if embodied in a treaty or convention with China.

Such a declaration might conveniently find place in the preamble to the convention which it is hoped will shortly be negotiated with China amending existing treaties of commerce and navigation. In view of its great importance, I respectfully suggest that some steps be promptly taken to obtain the consent of the Powers to the incorporation of this declaration in the treaty above referred to or in such other as may seem expedient to you and that their Diplomatic Representatives here be instructed accordingly.

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant,

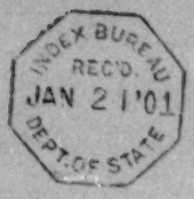
W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

No. 469

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 23 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



December 10, 1900.

Rec'd Feb. 15

Feb. 26

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Passport application Christopher M. Bensamin,
a naturalized citizen of Russian birth.

No. 469

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 10th, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose a copy of the passport application of Christopher M. Bensamin, claiming citizenship through the naturalization of his father, Martin Bensamin. Issuance of passport on this application has been refused.

The father's certificate of naturalization was issued to him on November 25th, 1867, in pursuance of the terms of the treaty with Russia of March 30th, 1867. The son's application for a passport shows that he was born in Siberia, April 25th, 1874. I do not think that it appears with sufficient clearness that the father was, at the time of his son's birth, a citizen of the United States. Seven years had elapsed since his naturalization, and he had apparently returned to the country of his nativity (Russia).

Furthermore the applicant does not state that he has or ever had a domicile in the United States, or that he

has

has any intention of going there within a definite and reasonable time.

On the whole I deem the evidence of citizenship insufficient, and I therefore refer the matter to the Department for its consideration. I enclose the Legation's correspondence with Consul Wilcox relative thereto.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosures:

1. Passport application of C. M. Bensamin.
2. Mr. Wilcox to Mr. Conger, November 26th, 1900.
3. Mr. Conger to Mr. Wilcox, December 10th, 1900.

Enclosure 1 Desp. 469

[EDITION OF 1889.]

Fee for Passport, - - - - - $1.00
Fee for filling out application in duplicate, - - - - - - - .50
Fee for administering oath in duplicate, - - - - - - - .50

PERSON CLAIMING CITIZENSHIP THROUGH NATURALIZATION OF HUSBAND OR PARENT.

No ..... ISSUED, ..., 18.....

I, C. M. Benzamin, a naturalized and loyal citizen of the United States, hereby apply to the Legation of the United States at Peking, China, for a passport for myself, ~~accompanied by my wife,~~ ....., ~~and minor children, as follows:~~ ....., ~~born at~~ .....~~on the~~.....~~day of~~....., ~~18~~.....; ~~and~~ .....

.....

I solemnly swear that I was born at Khabarovka, Amoor River, Siberia, on or about the 25th day of April, 1874; that my father ~~was a citizen of~~ ~~emigrated to the United States, sailing on board the~~ ....., ~~from~~ ....., ~~on~~ was a citizen of Alaska at the time of the purchase of that territory by the United States from Russia, and having made application before the Acting ~~or about the~~ ....., ~~day of~~ ....., ~~18~~....., ~~that he resided~~ ~~years, uninterruptedly, in the United States, from~~ ....., ~~to~~ ....., ~~at~~ ....., ~~; that~~ Assistant Adjutant General of the District of Alaska, he became a citizen of the United States, in accordance with Article III of the treaty of ~~he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the~~ ~~Court of~~ March 30th, 1867 between the United States & Russia 25th ....., ~~at~~ ....., on the 25th day of November, 1867, as shown by the accompanying Certificate of Naturalization; that I am the son of the person described in said Certificate; that I am the bearer of Passport No....., issued by ...., on the.....day of....., 18.. ..., which is returned herewith; that I am the identical person referred to in said passport; that I have resided in the United States, uninterruptedly, for.....years, from.....to....., at.....; that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at.....in the State of ....., ~~where~~ I follow the occupation of Tea Merchant; that I last left the United States on the.....day of....., 18....., on board the ....., arriving in.....the.....day of ....., 18.....; that I have resided in China since the 1st day of May, 1892; that I am now temporarily residing at Kiukiang; and that I intend to return to the United States within.....with a purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein.

I desire the passport for the purpose of travelling in Siberia

.....

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that bligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: SO HELP ME GOD.

C. M. Benzamin

vule of UNITED STATES AT Hankow China.

before me, this 26th day of January 1894.

L. S. Wilcox

U.S. Consul acting judicially

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 27 years.
Stature: 5 feet 4½ inches, Eng.
Forehead: high
Eyes: brown
Nose: prominent
Mouth: medium
Chin: short
Hair: dark brown
Complexion: ruddy
Face: full

IDENTIFICATION.

Hankow China this 26th day of January 1894.

I hereby certify that I know the above-named C. M. Benzamin personally, and know him to be the son of the person referred to in the within-described Certificate of Naturalization, and that the facts stated in his affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A. Lebedeff

[ADDRESS OF WITNESS.] Hankow China

Enclosure No. 2 in Despatch No. 469

UNITED STATES CONSULATE.

Hankow, China, November 26th, 1900

Hon. E. H. Conger,

United States Minister,

Peking.

Sir:-

I have the honor to herewith enclose the applications of Christopher Martin Bensamin for a passport, the fee, $2.10 Mexican for the same, and the naturalization certificate of his father, Martin Bensamin, from Brevett Captain Sam .H. Kinney, Acting Assistant Adjutant General of the District of Alaska. Also his birth certificate (in Russian) showing the applicant to be the son of the man named in the enclosed naturalization certificate.

Mr. Bensamin has been living in this Consular district for seven (7) years. He was registered at this Consulate in 1894. He desires to start for Siberia during December, to look after the tea trade, in which business he is engaged.

I have the honor to be , Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) L. S. Wilcox,

Enclosures: As above. Consul.

Enclosure No. 4 in Despatch No. 467

UNITED STATES CONSULATE.

Hankow, China, November 26th, 1900

Hon. E. H. Conger,

United States Minister,

Peking.

Sir:-

I have the honor to herewith enclose the applications of Christopher Martin Bensamin for a passport, the fee, $2.10 Mexican for the same, and the naturalization certificate of his father, Martin Bensamin, from Brevett Captain Sam .H. Kinney, Acting Assistant Adjutant General of the District of Alaska. Also his birth certificate (in Russian) showing the applicant to be the son of the man named in the enclosed naturalization certificate.

Mr. Bensamin has been living in this Consular district for seven (7) years. He was registered at this Consulate in 1894. He desires to start for Siberia during December, to look after the tea trade, in which business he is engaged.

I have the honor to be , Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) I. S. Wilcox,

Consul.

Enclosures: As above.

Enclosure No. 3 with Despatch No. 469

Mr Conger to the United States Consul at Hankow, China.

December 10, 1900.

L. S. Wilcox, Esq.,

United States Consul,

Hankow.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 26th enclosing application of Christopher Martin Bensamin, for a passport, together with the naturalization certificate of his father, Martin Bensamin, and the applicant's birth certificate (in Russian).

The father's certificate of naturalization indicates that he became a citizen of the United States on November 25th, 1867, in pursuance of the terms of the treaty with Russia of March 30th, 1867. The son's application for a passport, declares that he was born at Khabarovka, Siberia, on the 25th of April, 1874. It does not appear that the father was at the time of the son's birth a citizen of the United States. Seven years had elapsed since his naturalization, and he might, within that time, have become expatri-

ated.

Enclosure No. 3. with Despatch No. 454.

No. 454.

H.M. Consul to the United States Consul at Hankow, China.

Consulate of Great Britain,

Hankow, China, November 30th, 1899.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 30th enclosing application of Chiatsopoet Martin Benjamin, for a passport, together with the naturalization certificate of his father, Martin Benjamin, and the application for a certificate (in Russian).

The latter's certificate of naturalization includes Mr. Benjamin and does not require to be sworn (?) here. He can therefore, if able conscientiously to do so, take the oath of Fidelity to the United States on November 30th, 1899, in pursuance of the terms of the treaty with Russia, and return the application for a passport, declaring that he was born at Kamenetz-Podolsk, Russia, on the 30th of March, 1874. It does not appear that the latter saw as the time of the son's birth a citizen of the United States. Seven years had elapsed since his naturalization, and he might, within that time, have become expatri-

ated.

expatriated. Furthermore, the applicant does not state that he has, or ever had, a domicile in the United States, or that he has any intention of going there within a definite and reasonable time. The exemption granted to missionaries in this regard, has no application in his case.

The Legation, for the present, declines to issue a passport upon this application; but the case will be referred to the Department of State.

The certificate of naturalization, birth certificate and passport fee are returned herewith.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) E. H. CONGER.

Enclosures:

1. Naturalization certificate of Martin Bensamin;
2. Birth certificate of Christopher M. Bensamin;
3. P. O. order for $2.10 Mexican money.

expatriated. Furthermore, the applicant does not state that he has, or ever had, a domicile in the United States, or that he has any intention of going there within a definite and reasonable time. The exemption granted to missionaries in this regard, has no application in his case.

The Legation, for the present, declines to issue a passport upon this application; but the case will be referred to the Department of State.

The certificate of naturalization, birth certificate and passport fee are returned herewith.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) R. H. CONGER.

Enclosures:

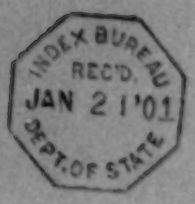
1. Naturalization certificate of Martin Benamin;

2. Birth certificate of Christopher M. Benamin;

3. P. O. order for $2.10 Mexican money.

No. 470

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



December 11, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's circular instructions, October 22nd, 1900, announcing death of Honorable John Sherman. Flag will be displayed at half-mast, as instructed.

No. 470

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 11, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's circular instructions of October 22nd, last, announcing the death of the Honorable John Sherman, formerly Secretary of State of the United States, and to say that, in compliance with your instructions, the United States flag will be displayed at half-mast at this legation for a period of ten days.

I have the honor to be,

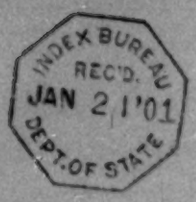
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 471

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



December 11, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions No. 288, October 22nd, 1900, enclosing copy of correspondence with French Chargé d'Affaires, in further relation bases of settlement with China.

No. 471

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 11, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions No. 288, of the 22nd of October, 1900, enclosing printed copy of correspondence with the French Chargé de Affaires in further relation to the proposals of the French Government respecting the bases for the settlement to be negotiated between the Powers and the Chinese Government.

I have the honor to be,

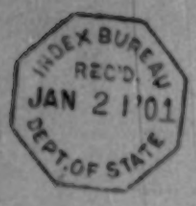
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 472

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.



December 11, 1900.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of instructions dated October 19th, last, transmitting copy of correspondence between President and Emperor of China.

No. 472

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 11, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Department's instructions, dated October 19th last, enclosing a printed copy of message from the Emperor of China to the President, in regard to the settlement of China's difficulties; and the President's reply.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 473

DIPLOMATIC,
2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
JAN 22 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

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JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

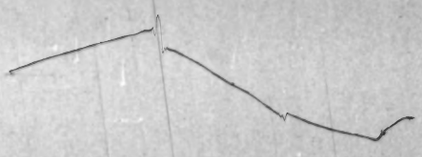
December 11, 1900.

Taken and
Mrs. Alice M. Wil-
liams informed,
Jan. 24.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Acknowledging receipt of Department's instructions No. 287, October 18th, 1900. Murder of Reverend George L. Williams confirmed.



No. 473

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Conc'n Rev. G. L. Williams

December 11, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Replying to Department's instructions, No 287, of October 18th, last, I have the honor to say that, there seems to be no doubt as to the murder of Reverend George L. Williams, at Tai Ku, some thirty miles south of Tai Yuen, on the 31st of July, last, the details of which are fully given in Doctor Porter's report of the Shensi massacres (Despatch No. 412, of September 15th, 1900). Since then the news of his death has been confirmed in a list of missionaries murdered during the recent "Boxer" outbreak, compiled by the Consul General at Shanghai.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

No. 474.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

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December 12, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
JAN 22 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Ackd Jan. 26 C

Subject: Chinese Plenipotentiaries have not received full powers in proper form. Imperial Edict on subject.

No. 474

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 12, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

The Chinese Plenipotentiaries have repeatedly assured various representatives of the Powers that their full powers in due form would be exhibited at the proper time, yet we have recently learned that they have no evidence of same except decrees which they say they have received by telegraph. They have had three months in which to procure the fully authenticated documents themselves, and it is a great surprise to us all that they have them not. They have, however, promised to telegraph to the Court, a copy of the letters patent issued to Li Hung Chang for negotiations with Japan, and request the issuance of like powers now.

This morning I received from Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang a communication, copy of which I enclose, setting forth

forth another telegraphic decree granting them full powers, and they again promise that when negotiations begin they will be able to present full powers, duly sealed, and properly authenticated.

This decree is also published in the Official Gazette today.

It is therefore probable that satisfactory evidence of their full authority to act will be forthcoming in time to prevent serious delay in the negotiations.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. Hoagland

Enclosure No. 5 with Despatch No. 474

Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, Peace Commissioners, to

Mr Conger.

Peking, December 12th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We have the honor to transmit a telegraphic edict which we received, issued on the 9th of December, as follows:

"By Our Imperial Mandate, bearing Our seal, full "powers are given to I-Kuang (Prince Ching) and Li Hung Chang "Let action be taken as requested."

We will respectfully act in accordance with(the above edict), and when negociations commence we will present the Imperial Mandate bearing the Imperial Seal, for the inspection of the Foreign Ministers.

As in duty bound, we send a copy of the above edict, so that Your Excellency may take note of it accordingly.

To

His Excellency

Edwin H. Conger,

etc, etc, etc.

Enclosure No. ~ with Despatch No. 474

Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, Peace Commissioners, to Mr Conger.

Peking, December 12th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We have the honor to transmit a telegraphic edict which we received, issued on the 9th of December, as follows:

"By Our Imperial Mandate, bearing Our seal, full powers are given to I-Kuang (Prince Ching) and Li Hung Chang "let action be taken as requested."

We will respectfully act in accordance with(the above edict), and when negociations commence we will present the Imperial Mandate bearing the Imperial Seal, for the inspection of the Foreign Ministers.

As in duty bound, we send a copy of the above edict, so that Your Excellency may take note of it accordingly.

To

His Excellency

Edwin H. Conger,

etc, etc, etc.

No. 475.

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1901
BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

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Secretary of State JAN 22 1901

December 12, 1900.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY, JAN 22 1901

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject: Continuation of Despatch No. 461, November 30th, 1900. Removal of General Tung Fu-hsiang from the Court. Translation of Imperial Edict on subject.

No. 475

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 12, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to my despatch No. 461, of November 30th, last, with reference to the removal of General Tung Fu-hsiang, with his baneful influence and inordinate power, from the immediate vicinity and control of the Court, I have the honor to enclose herewith translation of a communication received from Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, embodying an Imperial Decree ordering him to Kansuh, and disbanding 5,500 of his troops.

There is in this action a pretence of punishment, but it can in nowise be accepted as commensurate with his offense. If, however, the Decree is carried out, and he and his troops are removed, the Court will be left free to

punish

punish other criminals, and to return, in due time, without hindrance, to Peking. Severer punishment for General Tung Fu-hsiang may be opportunely demanded a little later on.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

Enclosure:

Translation of Imperial Edict as above.

Received December 9th, 1900.

Enclosure No. 1 with Despatch No. 475

Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to Mr Conger.

Peking, December 9th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We had the honor, some time ago, to receive Your Excellency's note, in which you observed that General Tung Fu-hsiang should not be near the Court, etc, etc.

We at once memoralized the Throne, setting forth the observations made by Your Excellency, and on the 3rd of December a Decree was issued as follows:

"Tung Fu-hsiang, General of Kansuh, formerly rendered meritorious service in the successive battles he waged against the Mohammedans in Kansuh. After his transfer to Peking, he showed ignorance of the condition of affairs existing between China and foreign countries, and failed to respectfully sympathize with the Court's sincere purpose of cultivating friendly relations (with the Powers). Whenever questions came up, he generally treated them in an abrupt, careless manner, and it is right that he should be severely punished; but taking into consideration that (matters in) the Province of Kansuh are of great importance, and as the said General is certainly the right man in the right place there, we will treat his offense leniently, and order that he be de prived of his rank, but allowed to retain his office. Of the various troops under his command, We have ordered that 5,500 be dismissed. We further order that the said

General,

Received December 9th, 1900.

Enclosure No. ~ with Despatch No. 4 + 5

Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to Mr Conger.

Peking, December 9th, 1900.

Your Excellency:-

We had the honor, some time ago, to receive Your Excellency's note, in which you observed that General Tung Fu-hsiang should not be near the Court, etc, etc.

We at once memorialized the Throne, setting forth the observations made by Your Excellency, and on the 3rd of December a Decree was issued as follows:

"Tung Fu-hsiang, General of Kansuh, formerly rendered meritorious service in the successive battles he waged against the Mohammedans in Kansuh. After his transfer to Peking, he showed ignorance of the condition of affairs existing between China and foreign countries, and failed to respectfully sympathize with the Court's sincere purpose of cultivating friendly relations (with the Powers). Whenever questions came up, he generally treated them in an abrupt, careless manner, and it is right that he should be severely punished; but taking into consideration that (matters in) the Province of Kansuh are of great importance, and as the said General is certainly the right man in the right place there, we will treat his offense leniently, and order that he be de prived of his rank, but allowed to retain his office. Of the various troops under his command, We have ordered that 5,500 be disbanded. We further order that the said General,

General, with the various battalions of his body guard or own forces, at once return to Kansuh, and there take up a commanding or strategical position, and establish defences, so that We may see whether he exerts himself."

As in duty bound we enclose the above Decree for Your Excellency's information.

General, with the various battalions of his body guard or own forces, at once return to Kansuh, and there take up a commanding or strategical position, and establish defences, so that We may see whether he exerts himself."

As in duty bound we enclose the above Decree for Your Excellency's information.

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We at once memorialized the Throne, setting forth the observations made by Your Excellency, and on the 3rd of December a Decree was issued as follows:

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No. 476

DIPLOMATIC,
JAN 22 1 01
BUREAU.

Ask file

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

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REC'D.
JAN 21'01
DEPT. OF STATE

December 15, 1900.

Secretary of State.
JAN 22 1901

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
Copy to Mr. Hull, referring to previous communication of telegram.
JAN 22 1901

1/21

Hon. W. B. Allison
Chmn. Senate Com.
on appropriations
informed, Feb. 1
C.

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Copy to Hon J. A. T. Hull
Jan. 26.

Subject: Withdrawing request for special appropriation to cover personal losses of members of Legation during siege June,- August, 1900.

(Despatch No. 452, November 17th, 1900).

No. 476

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 15, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm, on the overlead, my telegram of today, and to say that, for personal reasons, not necessary to explain, we do not desire Congress to make the special appropriation requested, but will take our chances with the other American citizens who have suffered like losses here.

I had written to Honorable J. A. T. Hull to get from the Department the necessary data, and, if necessary, to introduce a special bill for the purpose, hence my request in the telegram that you advise him of my wishes in the matter; and, thanking you therefor,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. Conger

TELEGRAM SENT (CIPHER).

PEKING, DECEMBER 15, 1900.

SECSTATE,

WASHINGTON.

I DO NOT DESIRE APPROPRIATION REQUESTED MY DESPATCH NOVEMBER SEVENTEENTH. ADVISE HULL.

(SIGNED) CONGER.

No 25.

Secretary of State,
JAN 31 1901

COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES TO CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
RECD.
JAN 30'01
DEPT. OF STATE

Peking, China, December 15, 1900.

Honorable John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

The Diplomatic Representatives here having at last agreed upon the terms of the joint note to be presented the Chinese Plenipotentiaries, the question of the best and most expeditious method of conducting the negotiations resulting therefrom is brought forward. These negotiations cover such questions as the evacuation of north China by the foreign expeditionary forces, indemnities and financial measures incidental to their payment, stragetic points to be occupied permanently in Chihli, amendments to treaties of commerce and navigation, court ceremonial, etc., and a number of others, all of great importance to the establishment of lasting peaceful relations with China and among the Treaty Powers themselves.

It is my belief that these negotiations cannot be carried on rapidly or satisfactorily in China and that the interests of the Great Powers and of China would be much better served if they could be discussed by a conference held in Europe or the United States. My principal reasons for this belief are (1) that in any conference held in China the representatives of the small European Powers, or of Powers which have hardly any interests in China, will necessarily have equal voices with the others and may use them to the prejudice of Powers with great interests in consideration of advantages offered them in some other part of the world. If a conference

were held abroad it would be possible to invite to take part in it only those Powers which have great interests, commercial or otherwise, in China. The others would have to accept the conclusions reached by it.

(2) All the questions, especially the military ones, to be dealt with in the conference can be more thoroughly discussed in Washington or in Europe than here and agreements reached of more permanent value to the world at large and in a shorter time in view of the proximity of the various parties to the Congress.

It is certain that as soon as the demands of the Powers have been presented to China, the Chinese Plenipotentiaries will ask on compliance with which conditions they will agree to an evacuation of Pekingand what further conditions will be held as prerequisite necessities to a complete evacuation of northern China. They will also ask what points the Powers wish to hold permanently to insure free communication between the capital and the sea. The military commanders here cannot decide these questions, they must be settled on purely political lines looking to a preservation of a balance of military power in northeastern China; otherwise we may expect to see repeated, on a much larger scale, the difficulties which occurred in Korea between China and Japan from 1882 to 1895.

So far as I am aware the military commanders have not given a thought to the evacuation of the country or to considering the means by which it can be gradually turned over to the Chinese local authorities. Most of them in fact are adverse to any evacuation, in the hope that some day extended military operations may be decided upon. Permanent cantonments in or around Peking are talked about, and two or three years

are suggested as the earliest date at which the withdrawal of the troops can be effected.

If the Chinese learn that their prompt compliance with the demands of the Powers will not bring about the prompt reestablishment of Chinese rule in the section of country now held by foreign troops, is it not too much to expect that they will show great diligence in carrying out our demands? They will without a doubt seek every avenue of delay, resort to their usual, and so frequently successful, methods of procrastination, trusting that the future will bring forth something which will save them from the performance of some one of our more objectionable demands. Prompt action by a conference on all these questions would, it seems to me, remove to a great extent this danger, and hasten the resumption of peaceful relations.

I understand that the British Minister here has written to his Government advocating the holding of a conference between the Great Powers on Chinese affairs in some one of the capitals of Europe or, preferably, in Washington. I believe I suggested this to you in a letter from Shanghai in September last. Since then my belief in its necessity has steadily grown and the recent protracted conferences of the diplomatic representatives here, in which the agents of some of the least interested powers were able to play an entirely too prominent role, has further fortified my opinion. I think that if the suggestion of such a conference was made by our Government to the other great Powers, and Washington offered as the place in which it should be held, it would meet with their

prompt and cordial acquiescence.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

United States Commissioner.

P.S., December 16th, 1900.

Since writing the above H.B.M's Minister has communicated to Mr. Conger a new amendment suggested by his Government to the note of the Powers, at the moment when we all thought this first step of the preliminary negotations was irrevocably taken. The addition suggeated is, I think, an unfortunate one for many reasons, and will still further weaken our position and raise new hopes in the breasts of the Chinese. It is, however, a new argument in favor of carrying on the final negotiations elsewhere than in China.

W. W. R

No. 477

Dep Bureau
Diplomatic
Consular
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BUREAU.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

INDEX BUREAU
REC'D.
JAN 30 '01
DEPT. OF STATE

3rd. ASST. SECRETARY.
JAN 30 1901

December 15, 1900.

Ans
Feb. 8

Mr Conger to the

Secretary of State.

Subject:- ~~Appropriation~~ Request for allowance for purchase of furniture for offices, Minister and Secretaries.

No. 477

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
PEKIN, CHINA.

December 15, 1900.

To the Honorable

John Hay,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

In view of the general destruction of property, which, during the siege, nearly denuded the offices and residences in this Legation of their furniture, the details of which have been transmitted in previous dispatches, I respectfully request that I may be instructed to purchase furniture as follows:

For the offices,	$1,000
For Minister's residence,	$2,000
For residences of the Secretaries,	$1,000
Total,	$4,000; -

and draw on the Department for the amount.

It is not possible to purchase anything here, but navigation will be open by the time a reply can be received, and then

then orders may be sent to Shanghai.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. A. Conger

DIPLOMATIC,
DEC 18 1900
BUREAU.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED IN CIPHER.

2D ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
DEC 15 1900

From Peking,

December 15, 1900.

Received 11.30 A. M.

To Hon. J.A.T. Hull
Dec. 21
Confirmed Jany 8.

Hon. W. B. Allison
Chmn. Sen. Com. on appropriations
informed Feb. 1.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Fifteenth.

I do not desire appropriation requested in my despatch November 17. Advise Hull.

CONGER

Deciphered by J.R.B., Chief Clerk's Office

December 15, 12 M., *190* , M.